

H E SIR LESLIE ORME WILSON P C GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY

DHARAMPUR



HER EXCELLENCY LADY WILSON

DHARAMPUR

A BRIEF SKETCH OF ITS HISTORY AND ADMINISTRATION

BY

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THE MAHARAJAH OF DHARAMPUR AT SEVEN DIFFERENT AGES

CONTENTS

PAGE

INTRODUCTION iii

CHAPTER I.—DHARAMPUR 1

II.—ORIGIN OF THE RULERS OF DHARAMPUR—THEIR ANCIENT LINEAGE AND ROMANCE OF CHIVALRY 3

III.—CONQUEST OF DHARAMPUR BY RAMRAJA OF MEWAR .. 6

IV.—MILITARY REPUTATION OF THE RULERS OF DHARAMPUR—FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SHIVAJI 8

V.—THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA—CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE—MEDICAL RELIEF—PROGRESS OF EDUCATION 15

VI.—DHARAMPUR'S WAR SERVICES 26

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.—A GREAT PAGEANT—DHARAMPUR WEDDING—THE STATE BANQUET 29

B.—DHARAMPUR PALACE—THE OPENING CEREMONY .. 35

C.—THE VRAJLAL HOSPITAL—THE RAJA SAHEB'S SPEECH—COL. CARTER'S SPEECH 37

D.—PROGRESS OF EDUCATION—THE RAJA SAHEB'S SPEECH—THE POLITICAL AGENT'S SPEECH 45

E.—H. E. SIR LESLIE WILSON AT DHARAMPUR—IMPRESSION OF A JOURNALIST 51

F.—DHARAMPUR'S PROGRESS—HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN .. 56

G.—LADY WILSON MUSEUM—OPENED BY THE GOVERNOR .. 62

H.—A NEW HILL STATION—A FAR-SIGHTED AND COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME 67

I.—THE STATE BANQUET—RESTORATION OF HARMONY IN INDIA—A WELL DESERVED TRIBUTE TO LORD IRWIN. 75



THE MAHARANA IN STATE DRESS IN 1921

INTRODUCTION

In his speech delivered at Porbandar in November, 1927, His Excellency the Viceroy described the ideal of good government and he put in the forefront of the programme of Indian States good communications, cheap and expeditious justice, public health, education, and all that can be included in unselfish devotion to their people's interests "If these are present," remarked Lord Irwin, "no State can be in danger for the greatest security to any ruler lies in the love and contentment of his people" Again in a speech delivered at Morvi in Kathiawar in August, 1927, the Hon Mr C C Watson, Agent to the Governor-General in Western India States who has since been promoted to the office of the Political Secretary of the Government of India, observed "I am convinced that the future of the States is assured if they realise that their prestige, position and privileges lie largely in their own hands and can be made absolutely safe if they put their houses in order, consider the interests of their people to be their own interests and provide them with an administration as good and efficient as possible having regard to their resources"

Those who have recently visited Dharampur have been struck with the fact that Raja Saheb Vijayadevji appreciates and strives to realise the ideals set forth in the speeches of the Viceroy and the Political Secretary These are the ideals constantly kept before him since his accession to the gadi of his ancestors and the result is that the progressive spirit which has animated the ruler has seized his officials and his people As the Montagu Chelmsford report on constitutional reforms points out, the Indian States 'are in all stages of development, patriarchal, feudal or more advanced, while in a few States are found the beginnings of representative institutions The characteristic features of all of them, however, including the most advanced are the personal rule of the Prince and his control over legislation and the administration of justice Nor have any changes which have occurred in the least impaired the validity of the treaties

which assured to the States their powers of internal administration. Indeed it may be said that in a composite society like India's, and in times when ideas are changing rapidly, the existence of States in which ideals of chivalry and personal devotion survive as the motive principle of government has been the more clearly seen to have an abiding value. The independence of the States in matters of internal administration carries with it the counter obligation of non-interference in British Indian affairs." In another paragraph the same report points out that the Princes should be assured in the fullest and freest manner that no constitutional changes which may take place will impair the rights, dignities and privileges secured to them by treaties, sanads, and engagements or by established practice.

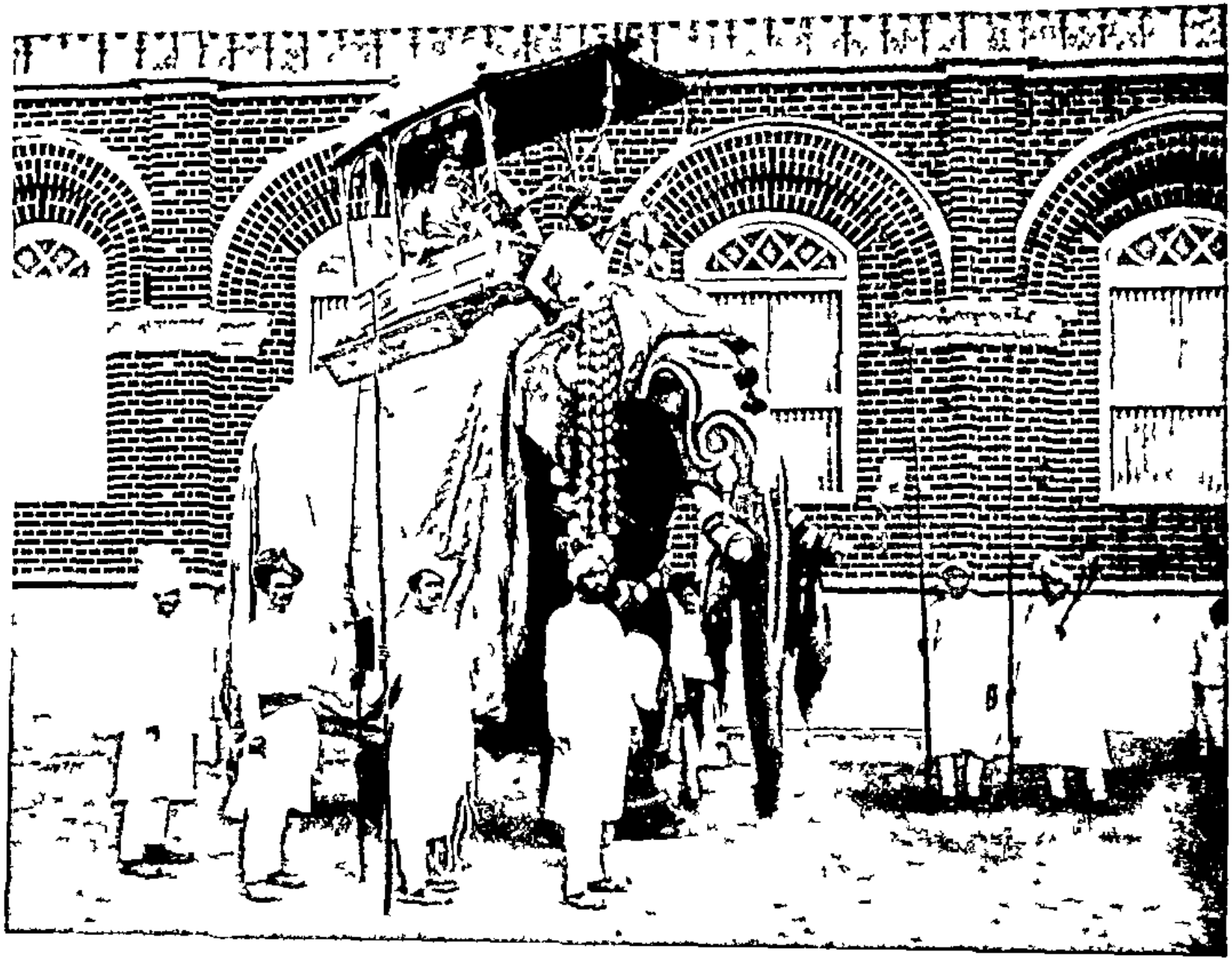
In her famous Proclamation of 1858, Queen Victoria said: "We shall respect the rights, dignity and honour of Native Princes as our own." Speaking in the House of Commons on the 23rd February, 1909, Lord Morley referred to "the noble promise made in Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858, a promise which every Englishman ought to be for ever proud of if he strives to adhere to it, or be ashamed if he strives to break it."

In 1903 His Majesty King Edward VII renewed "the assurance of regard for the Indian Princes, of respect for their dignity, right and interests in their advancement, and of devotion to their welfare which are the supreme aim and object of my rule." At the Imperial Coronation Durbar held at Delhi in 1911, His Majesty King George V rejoiced "to have this opportunity of renewing in my own person those assurances which have been given you by my revered predecessors of the maintenance of your rights and privileges." On the occasion of the inauguration of the Chamber of Princes in February, 1921, His Majesty the King-Emperor sent a message in which he said: "In my former Proclamation I repeated the assurance given on many occasions, by my Royal predecessors and myself of my determination ever to maintain unimpaired the privileges, rights and dignities of the Princes of India. The Princes may rest assured that this pledge remains inviolate and inviolable."

It was in 1909 that Lord Minto made at Udaipur the memorable pronouncement of non-intervention by the Government of India



THE MAHARANA—LATEST PHOTO



THE MAHARANA ON STATE ELEPHANT

in the internal affairs of the States Lord Minto pointed out "I have always been opposed to anything like pressure on Indian States with a view to introducing British methods of administration I prefer that reforms should emanate from the Durbars themselves and grow up in harmony with the traditions of the States It is easy to over estimate the value of administrative efficiency—it is not the only object to aim at, though the encouragement of it must be attractive to keen and able political officers The methods sanctioned by tradition in the States are usually well adapted to the needs and relations of the ruler with the people The loyalty of the latter to the former is generally a personal loyalty which administrative efficiency if carried out on lines unsuited to local conditions would lessen or impair "

The wise policy laid down by Lord Minto which was attended with beneficial results seems to have been shelved and at present the Political Department of the Government of India seems to have no fixed policy This has given rise to alarm in several States in India It is therefore pleasant to find in a State like Dharampur that not only has the ruler shown wise determination for enlightened progress to secure the happiness and prosperity of his subjects, but the political relations of the State with the Government of Bombay are most happy and friendly The relation of Dharampur may be described as one of union and co operation with the Political Agent while the relations of the State with the people may be described as that of a parent and children When the States of Kathiawar and Gujarat were transferred to the Political Department of the Government of India the benefits derived by the States through their connection with the Bombay Government were freely acknowledged by His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb and other Indian Princes His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson has done well in fully acquainting himself with the affairs and conditions of such States as still remain in political relations with the Government of Bombay That for the first time the Governor of Bombay has decided to visit some of the Indian States which are out of the beaten track is proof of the interest which His Excellency takes in the affairs of those States and such friendly visits will not only promote and cement the bond of loyalty between



TWO TRIFNDS

LT COL H IS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SHRI SIR RANJITSINHJI G C S I G B E
MAHARAJA JAM SAHEB OF NAVANAGAR AND
MAHARANA SHRI VIJAYADEVJI RANA RAJA SAHEB OF DHARAMPUR

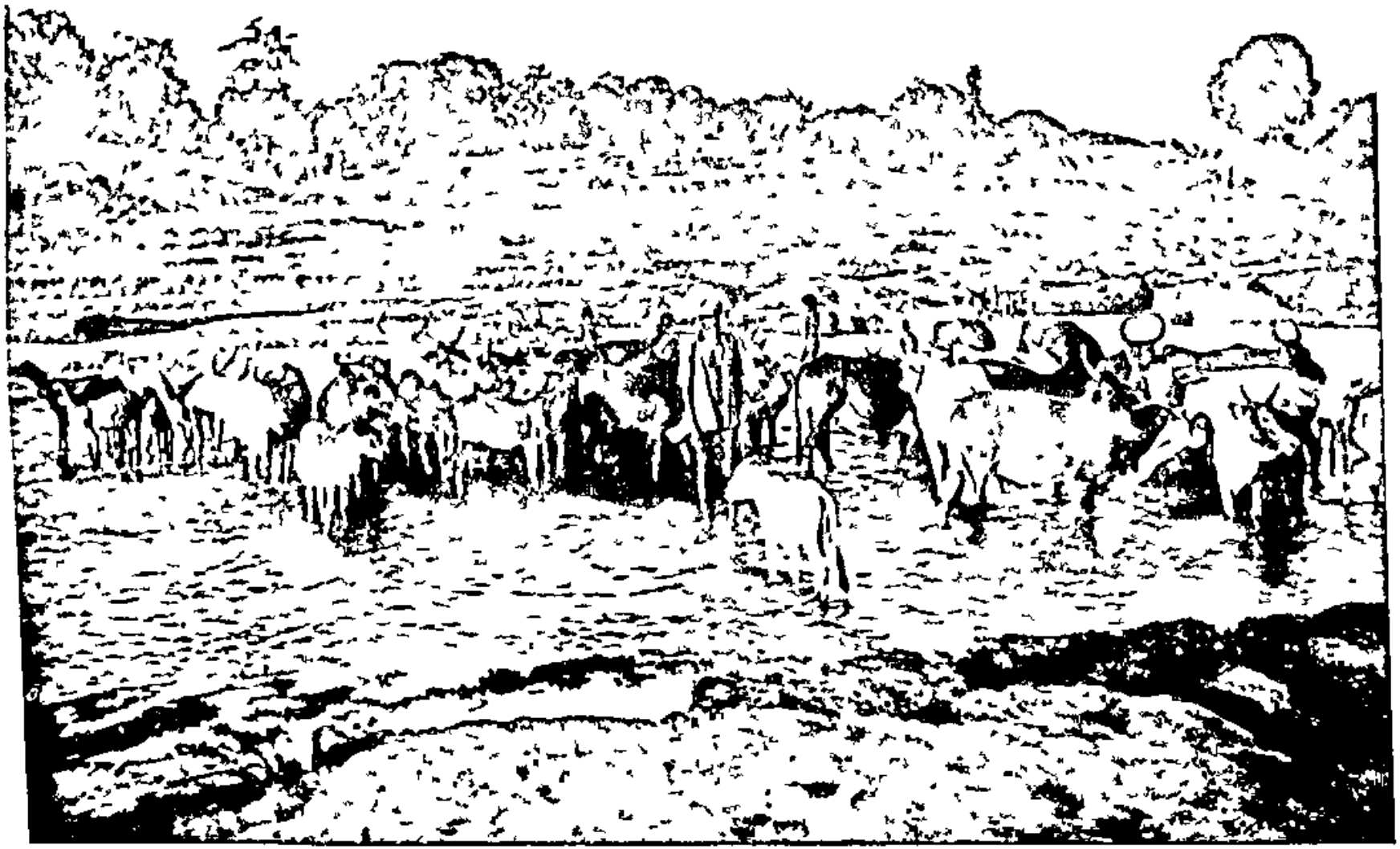
of the Kathiawar States, some of which are providing a notable example of the difficulties which arise in the technical interpretation of rights secured to the States by treaty and of pledges given. The whole press of India has strongly criticised the decision of the Government of India to reimpose the customs barrier at Viramgaum abolished in 1917 when the maritime States of Kathiawar undertook to adopt the British India rates of duty at their ports. Sir Harcourt Butler's Committee may not deem it desirable to make a definite recommendation on the question of the Kathiawar ports; but the issue is bound to be affected by the principles and practice the Committee will propose. Not only the maritime States but all the Indian States are vitally concerned in the decision of the Government of India in regard to the question of ports, for which an appeal has been preferred by the maritime States of Kathiawar to Lord Irwin.

The rights of the Peishwas were transferred to the British Government under the Treaty of Bassein, and Dharampur State then undertook to pay Rs. 2,000 laid as a chauth in lieu of transit duty to the Government of Bombay. The States abolished the transit duty at the request of the Government of Bombay, which, however, still continues to receive the amount of chauth from the State and it is hoped that Sir Leslie Wilson's visit to Dharampur will result in a satisfactory solution of this question.

Recognising that his personal interest in the people of his State and the efforts he makes to promote their welfare is the real and only stable foundation of the high position in which birth has placed him, the Raja Saheb is directing with wisdom his great energies to the administration of the State on sound and efficient lines and this will be manifest from the record of the progress of the States described in the following pages.



THE HEIR APPARENT OF DHARAMPUR



A RIVER VIEW

DHARAMPUR.

DHARAMPUR is a second class State in the political agency of Surat, a Town famous for the first commercial factory founded by the English in India in the seventeenth century Surat was twice sacked by Shivaji and Dharampur came into prominence by reason of the fact that the route through which he descended on that famous but unfortunate city, then in its heyday of commercial prosperity, lay through the State

Dharampur occupies a position in the province of Gujarat which is in no way less important than that of a first class State of similar size and opulence in Gujarat This is borne out by the fact that Dharampur has precedence over all Indian States entitled to a salute of nine guns It was twice raised to the dignity of a first class State when the personal salute of its rulers was raised from 9 to 11 guns In the year 1890 the salute was raised to 11 guns in recognition of the beneficent rule of Maharana Narandevji whose devoted loyalty to the British Crown was only equalled by his love for his subjects Again in the year 1921, that is the very year in which the present Ruler succeeded to the Gadi of his revered ancestors, Dharampur was raised to the status and dignity of a first class State when the personal salute of 11 guns was conferred upon Maharana Mohandevji, the father of the present Ruler, Maharana Vijayadevji, in appreciation of his enlightened rule and his loyal services during the great war

It was the ambition of the late Maharana to have his State permanently raised to the status of a first class State, but unfortunately he did not live long enough to see his legitimate

ambition fulfilled, for he died within a few months of the recognition of his status as a first class Ruler. It is now given to the present Ruler to work for the fulfilment of his distinguished father's desire, and he has set himself to realize it by improving the economic and financial condition of his State, by bringing into being ameliorative agencies for the regeneration of his subjects and by adopting beneficent measures for the promotion of their moral, physical and material welfare. How far he has succeeded in this benevolent work of a patriarchal Ruler will be judged from the record of progress achieved during the five years of his rule. Judging by the results already achieved it is no exaggeration to prophesy that during his reign, which it is hoped will be a prolonged one, the State will attain a position which will be as important as it will be fruitful of blessings both to the dynasty and the subjects of the Ruler.

The area of the State is about 800 square miles and includes rich forest land which extends as far as Nasik, and which is capable of being considerably developed.



DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AT THE TIME OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE MAHARANA IN 1921

II

ORIGIN OF THE RULERS OF DHARAMPUR.

THEIR ANCIENT LINEAGE AND ROMANCE OF CHIVALRY.

"The poorest Rajput retains all his pride of ancestry, often his sole inheritance; he scorns to hold the plough or use his lance but on horse-back."—Col. Tod, *Author of Rajasthan.*

MAHARANA SHREE VIJAYADEVJI is a Sisodia Rajput tracing his descent from the Rulers of Mewar in Rajputana The very name of Sisodia, who claims to have sprung from the Sun, recalls a great romance of chivalry almost unequalled in the history of the world. The history of Sisodia Rajputs is a magnificent tale of heroic sacrifices. In the annals of chivalry there is no epic transcending the heroic struggle of the Sisodias against the hordes of the Mahomedan power. There is no parallel to the tragedy which preceded the sack of Chitor by the Tartars, when, thirteen hundred women having been immolated to preserve them from pollution and captivity, the bravest survivors of the brave garrison sought death with reckless gallantry on the battle-field. There is nothing grander than the tragedy which accompanied the second capture of Chitor, when high-souled Rajput women preferred death to dishonour and found it before the scant remnants of the city's defenders fighting the army of Bahadur of Gujarat. The manner in which the gallant Pratap maintained an unequal struggle against the mighty armies of Akbar makes his heroic deeds the common heritage of all Rajputs. The name of Queen Padamni, whose fame for beauty provoked the fierce assault of Alla-u-din, the Mahomedan conqueror, still survives in common parlance as the synonym for fair and virtuous womanhood. Her fame as the greatest beauty of her age proved fatal to her and disastrous to the flower of manhood of Mewar. The story of the princes of the Rajputs is told in the Mahabharata and Ramayana, and Colonel Tod, the annalist of Rajasthan, has immortalised their deeds.

What is remarkable about this gallant race is that even to-day the type of men it produces is so similar to the heroes of the ancient epics that "legend grows to reality" as we read them. In a beautiful description of the race, Talboys Wheeler says, they are brave and chivalrous, keenly sensitive of an affront, and especially jealous of the honour of their women They have suffered at the hands of their enemies more but they have suffered no less in bloody feuds which they carried on for generations among themselves and which has helped to exterminate their bravest members As a picturesque English author, Mortimer Menpes, has said, the history of such a people must needs be a long tissue of tales, each one of which would form the plot of a modern novel of adventure. There is the story of Bappa Rawal, the herd boy, knight errant king who brought his island princess to Udaipur, and built for her that island on the lake where she might worship—as she had worshipped in her father's house—the great mother who became the tutelary Goddess of Mewar. The story too of Rao Tanno's great charge from his besieged fortress; of Deo Raj, the boy bridegroom, refugee from his own fatal wedding feast, who found the Jogi's phial containing the precious golden elixir and used it to regain his lost kingdom on condition that he wore the Jogi's dress as the suzerain princes of Jassulmeer do to this hour on the day of enthronement. But the greatest stories of all are those connected with the three sacks of Chitor, those terrible days which make the oath "by the sin of the sack of Chitor" unalterable to a Rajput.

His Highness Maharana Fateshinhji of Udaipur is the present head and the grand old leader of all Rajput princes. He is descended from the Sun-born kings of Ayodhya or Oudh, and the golden sun raised on a huge cluster of black ostrich feathers, is his royal insignia to which every Hindu does homage The great God Ram is his ancestor and, as was observed by His Majesty the King-Emperor on the occasion of his visit to Udaipur as Prince of Wales in 1907, the Maharana is greatly maintaining great traditions.

In his history of Rajputana, Mr. Gaurishankar Hirachand Ojha states that the founder of Dharampur was a Sisodia Prince claiming his descent from Rana Rahap of Mewar through his



ARTE CEREMONY AT THE TIME OF THE INSTALLATION.



RECEPTION BY THE MAHARANA SAHEB ON THE OCCASION OF THE MARRIAGE OF HIS ELDEST DAUGHTER WITH THE HEIR APPARENT SIR HARISINHJI SAHEB OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR



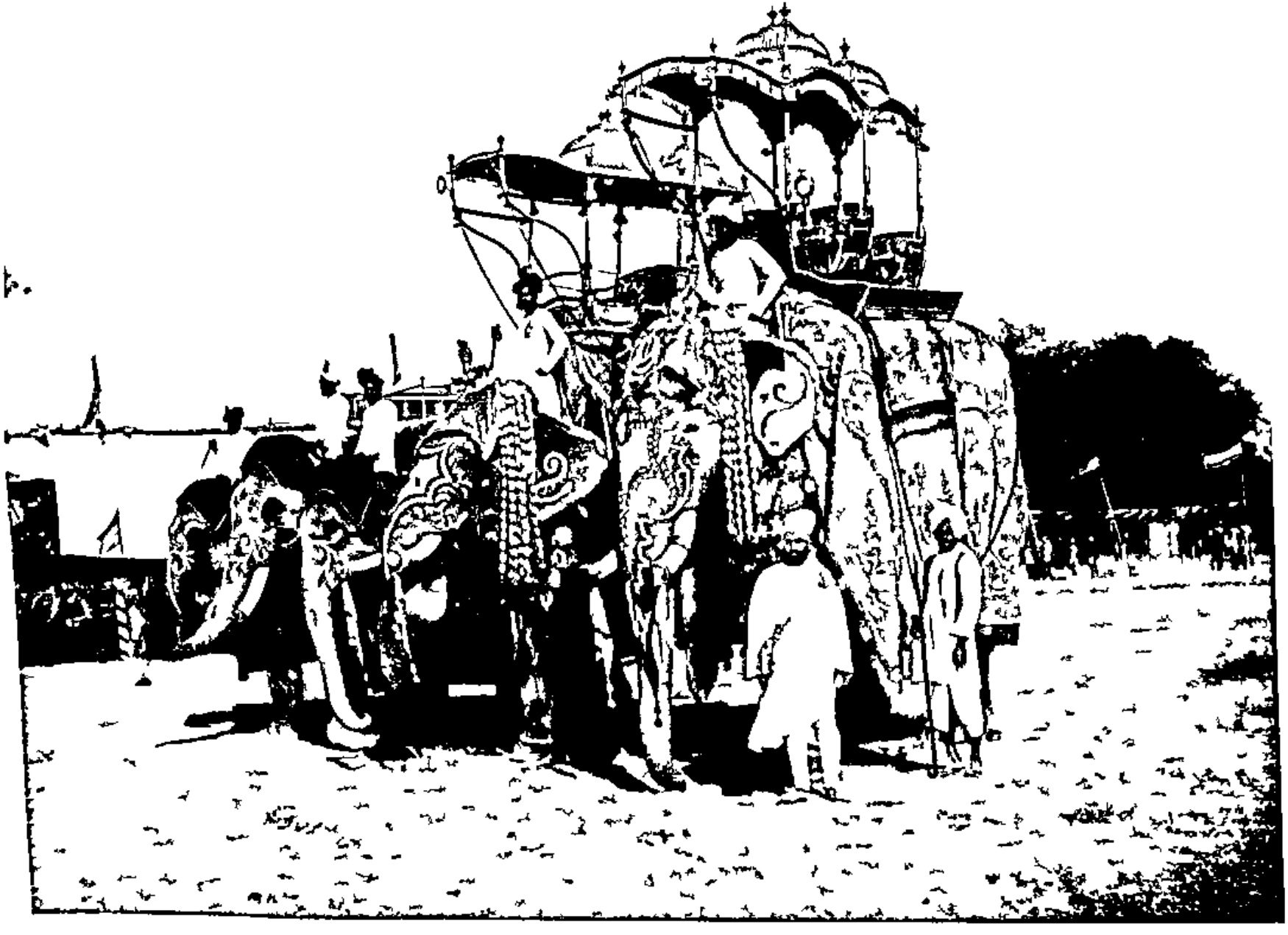
ARTI CEREMONY AT THE TIME OF THE INSTALLATION

progeny Ramraj or Ramshah, and according to that authority it was Ramshah who founded a branch of the Sisodia dynasty in Dharampur

In his ' Rajasthan ' Col Tod has said " there is not a petty State in Rajasthan that has not had its Thermopylae and scarcely a city that has not produced its Leonidas The Rulers of Dharampur have got their Thermopylae and their Leonidas in Gujarat where their exploits have been as daring as they have been romantic Their rule once extended as far as Bassein and Thana to the south and Nasik to the East They held their own against their formidable opponents sandwiched as they were between the Mahomedan rulers of Gujarat on the one hand and that great Maratha soldier of fortune Shivaji on the other and after him the Peishwas The Portuguese who were then in the heyday of their power in Gujarat were alternately their allies and opponents As allies the Portuguese found them honourable rulers who stuck to their promise at any cost and as opponents they found them tenacious but clean fighters

of Sanjan the Parsis who were given shelter by the Jadav rulers, when they took shelter in Gujarat after their flight from Persia when it was conquered by the Arabs, girded up their loins and fought for their protector To escape persecution at the hands of the Mahomedan army of the Sultan they took shelter in the territory of Dharampur State and since that time there have existed happy relations between the Parsis and the Rulers of the State Rana Jagatshah received the Parsis with open arms and extended his protection to them Even to day there are a number of Parsi agriculturists and Abkari farmers in the State and they are not slow in expressing their gratitude for the blessings they enjoy under the present ruler

In the year 1531, Jagatshah the second ascended the Gadi of Dharampur and ruled until 1566 During his reign the State reached its zenith of power At that time Akbar was the emperor at Delhi, while in the Deccan Nizam Shah and Adil Shah were the independent Sultans in the Deccan In Gujarat Muzaffer Shah the third was the Sultan The Portuguese power was supreme as a sea-power on the western coast Dharampur was encircled by Mahomedan and Portuguese powers In 1553 the Portuguese seized Daman and drove away the representative of the Sultan of Gujarat At that time Rana Jagatshah came into collision with the Portuguese who found in Jagatshah a powerful opponent who was more than a match for his foes A settlement was effected between the two powers The peace terms secured for Jagatshah a share in the collection of customs revenue at Daman and a tribute on the land adjoining it An offensive and defensive alliance was formed and it contributed to the lasting peace between the two powers This treaty with the Portuguese Government which was concluded in 1558, enhanced the prestige and status of Rana Jagatshah



STATE ELEPHANTS READY FOR THE MARRIAGE PROCESSION

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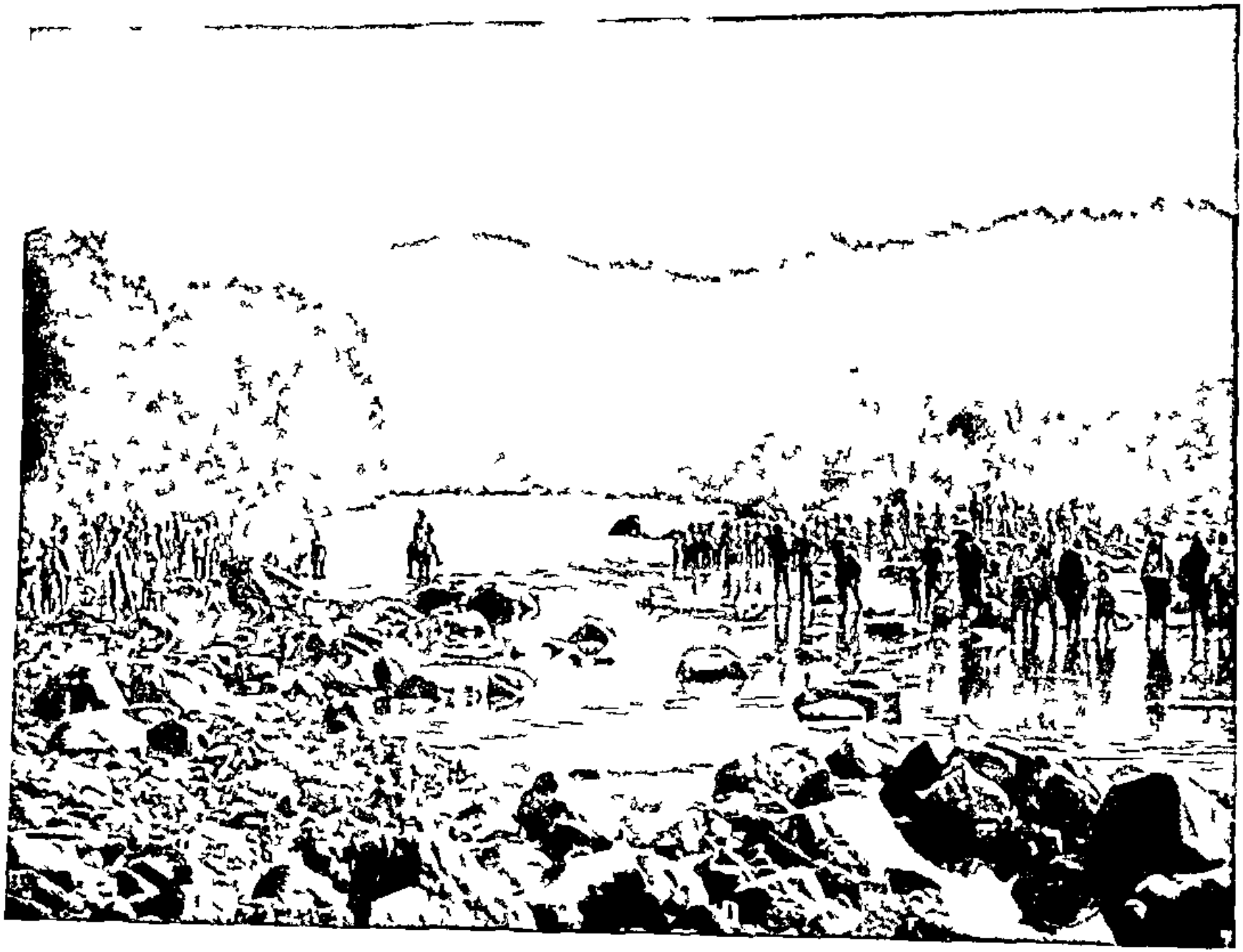
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IV

MILITARY REPUTATION OF THE RULERS OF DHARAMPUR.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SHIVAJI

IN the sixteenth century the State occupied a position of pre-eminence in South Gujarat In point of brilliance of military reputation and size of its territory it was second to no Hindu State in the province In fact it was regarded as the most important Hindu State in South Gujarat after the fall of Sanjan in 1465 Sanjan has become notable in history for the shelter it extended to Parsis who fled from Persia to India owing to religious persecution by the Arab conquerors In the time of Rana Jaydev (1531 to 1566) Dharampur was in the height of its military power and was regarded as a most powerful State At that time its boundary extended to the mountain fastness of Parnera and comprised in it the Districts of Ghambirgarh, Segna, Asarseta, Bahera, Udva, Balapur, Dharampuri and Nagar-Haveli It had seven forts In 1672 Shivaji paid a complimentary visit to the Ruler, Ramdev the first, and on that historic occasion, that great Maratha soldier before whom even the Moghuls quailed, took the fort of Ramnagar, saying that he must have the key to his treasure, Surat, in his own hands This fact is mentioned in the Gazetteer but, according to another account, Shivaji obtained the fort of Gambhirgarh and Parnera and by this route, he had previously marched on Surat in 1664 and 1670 Surat was at that time the chief emporium of Hindustan, the centre of Indian goods and manufactures, and it was here that the English and the Dutch had set up their factories for carrying on their lucrative Indian commerce Shivaji plundered the city of Surat for six continuous days and obtained from the helpless people heaps of treasure as his prize Encouraged by the priceless booty he had secured, he again invaded Surat in 1670 and carried off vast treasure , and from this period Gujarat became the occasional scene of predatory excursions of the Marathas



A RIVER VIEW



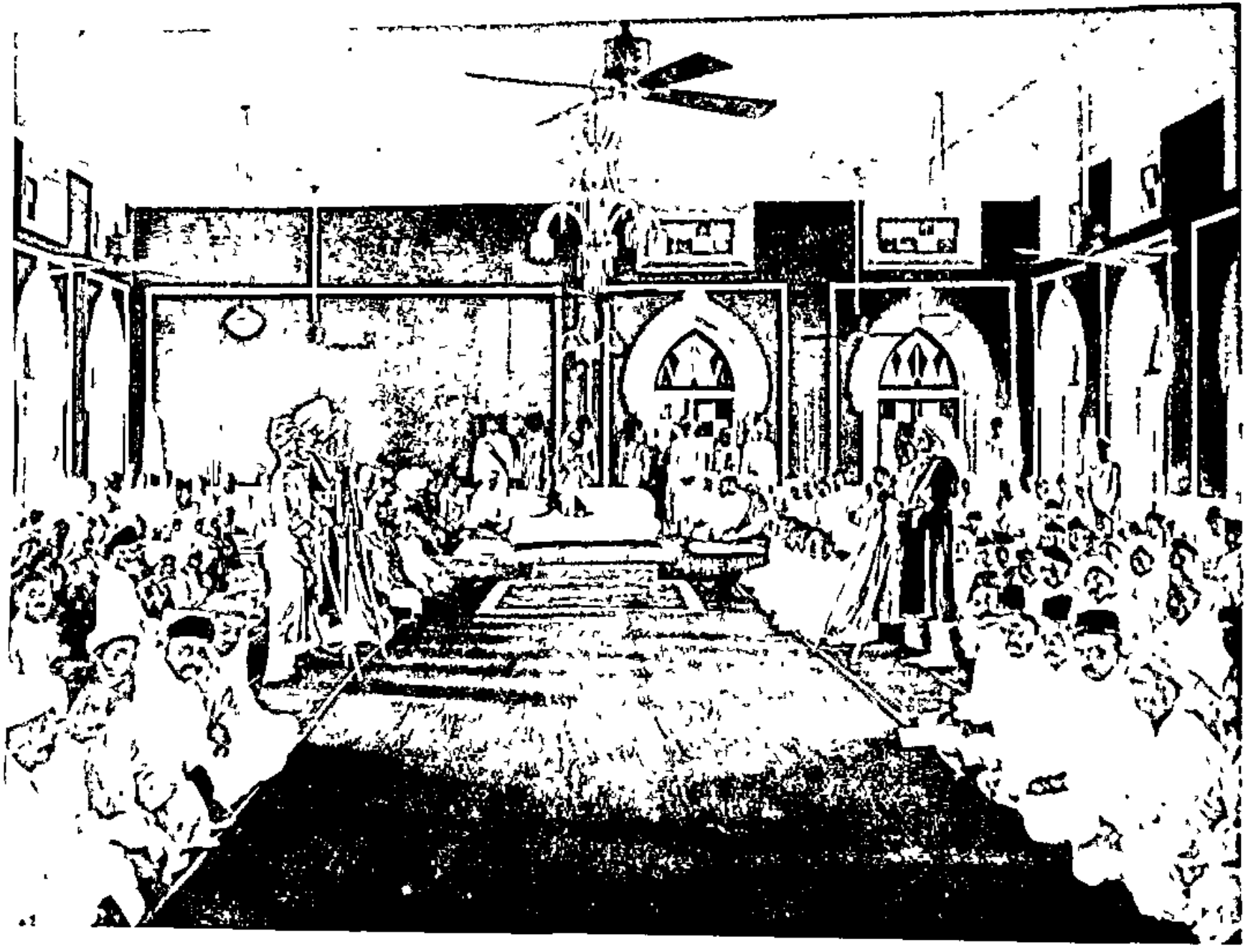
MR HARTSHORNE THE POPULAR COLLECTOR OF SURAT



KANIPARAJ WOMEN PLAYING THEIR MUSIC



SOME BEATERS AT SHIKAR



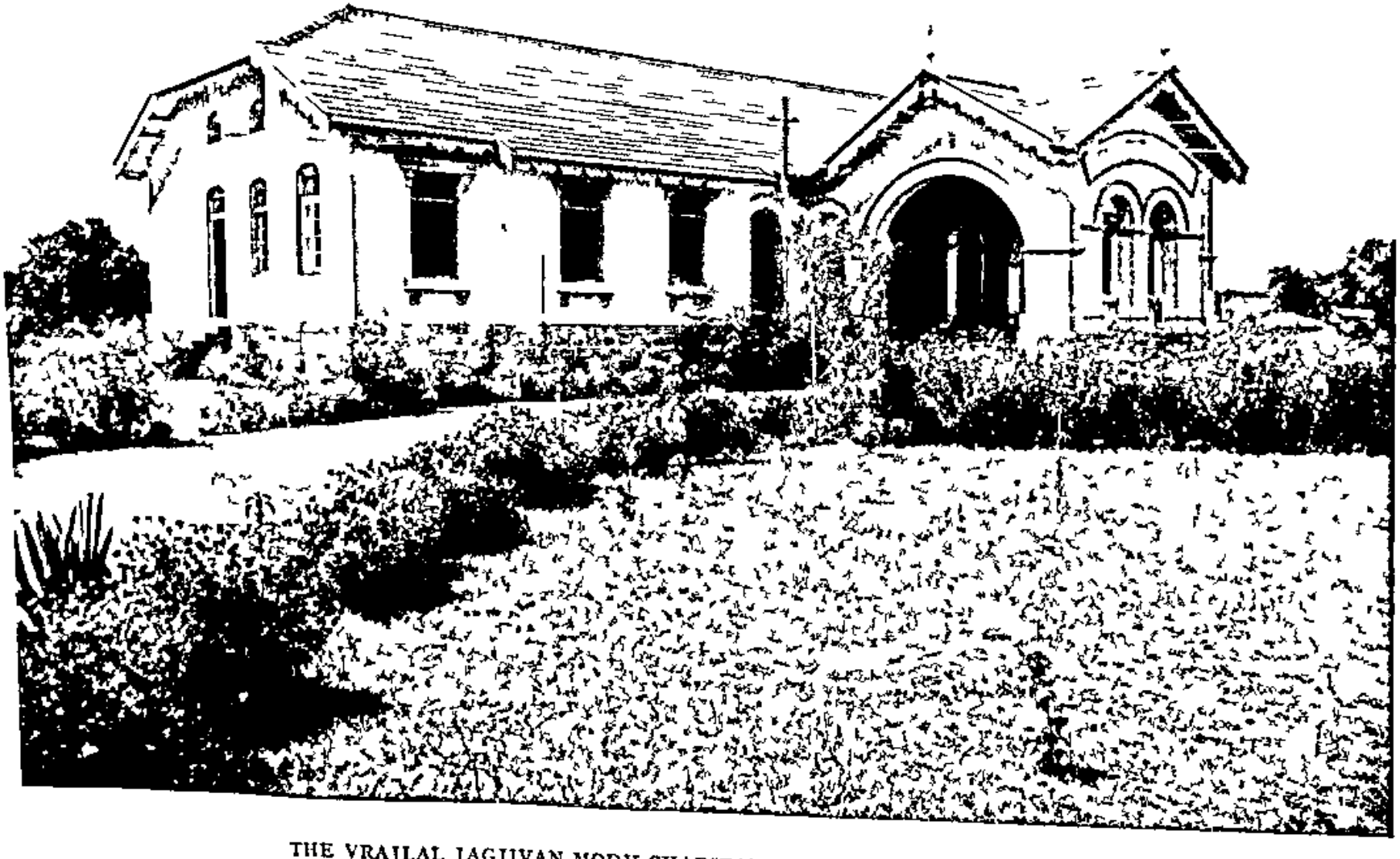
THE DARBAR

It may be noted as an interesting event that Shivaji did not wage war against the rulers of Dharampur It is profitless to speculate on the reasons that led him to adopt a pacific and friendly attitude towards the State Whether it was due to the fact that he himself claimed his descent from the Sisodias of Mewar and therefore he had a soft corner in his heart for a distinguished Ruler of that clan, or whether it was the tradition of the military prowess of the Ruler, that prompted him to keep on friendly terms with Dharampur, is not stated in any of the records The fact remains that Shivaji was allowed to pass through the territory on the occasion of his plundering campaigns against Surat Rana Ramdeo I cemented his friendship with Shivaji by allowing him the possession of his important fort In return Shivaji acknowledged the independence of the State and did not levy any tribute from its Ruler, though he mercilessly imposed it upon Jawhar, whose ruler was put to death by him The friendly visit of Shivaji to Dharampur in 1672, his acknowledgment of the independence of the State, and his granting exemption to the State from the imposition of a *chowth* or tributes are events of great significance for the State, the prestige of which was greatly enhanced by the friendly transactions with a great military leader like Shivaji

But the status and the authority of the State had been recognized more than a century before Shivaji came on the scene by another and more powerful nation the Portuguese who had established themselves at Daman in 1558 It is now a well known historical fact that one of the most ambitious designs of Alfonso de Albuquerque, one of the ablest Viceroys that Portugal sent out to India was to found an Empire in the East by subjugating numerous kings who held sway along the coasts of India , and, though his attempt was not crowned with success, every student of Indian history already knows that he came nearer to the accomplishment of the object than any of his devout admirers could have anticipated From middle of the sixteenth century, Dharampur was a close neighbour of the Portuguese and, except for occasional misunderstanding or unavoidable collisions of a minor nature, both had remained on most friendly terms The Portuguese reciprocated the friendly feelings of the

Rulers of Dharampur by assigning the customs of Daman to it This event is referred to in " The Portuguese India " (being a history of the rise and decline of their Eastern Empire) by Mr F C Danvers On the 12th March 1635, an offensive and defensive alliance was concluded between the Rana of Dharampur and the Captain of the Daman Government By this treaty the Ruler agreed that neither he nor his captains should assist any enemy of Portuguese, that he should send assistance to the Captains and Governors of Daman in time of war, when called upon to do so , and that in the event of his intention to declare war against an enemy he should first give notice to the Captain in order to enable him to make preparations for assisting the king How nobly the Sisodia ruler requited his promise is shown in the records of the Portuguese Government The Portuguese were at war with Nizamulco, the Sultan of Ahmednagar The latter applied for help to the Raja of Dharampur, who replied that a Sisodia king would prefer death rather than break his promise to another power and he declined to attack the Portuguese

Another instance in which the king of Sarceta or Dharampur helped the Portuguese at a critical time is narrated in Mr Danver's book published by Messrs W H Allen and Co in 1844 In a war with the Koli king of Jawhar, the Viceroy of Goa asked for the help of Dharampur who sent a contingent consisting of 150 horse and 500 infantry The united forces marched towards Jawhar and on the way passed through Agashi, Manora and Asserim, arriving at their destination only at the end of fifteen days, during which they had been excessively impeded by the great heat The city was pleasantly situated on a hill, and overlooking an extensive plain , it contained many beautiful buildings and gardens and on their arrival it was found completely deserted, the king and inhabitants having all fled from the place It was thereupon burnt together with many neighbouring villages whilst the country people and all the cattle found were carried away as spoils of war The invading army then advanced and, passing through the narrow gorge, where they could only proceed in single file, the King of the Kolis with 6,000 men fell upon their rear, whilst others attacked them from the hill tops Each man had now to fight for himself, since in so narrow a pass any



THE VRAJLAL JAGJIVAN MODY CHARITABLE HOSPITAL, DHARAMPUR

concerted action was impossible; and in this strait none distinguished himself more than the king of Sarceta, who, sword in hand, was always to be found in place of greatest danger cheering on his men, and encouraging them by his own example After a severe and prolonged struggle the allied forces beat back the enemy, and the king of the Kolis, finding his army completely defeated, was forced to sue for peace and to accept such terms as the victorious Portuguese Commander chose to dictate

The historical records of the State were destroyed by fire and therefore it is impossible to get a narrative of the progress of the State The following information is however gleaned from the Hind Rajasthan

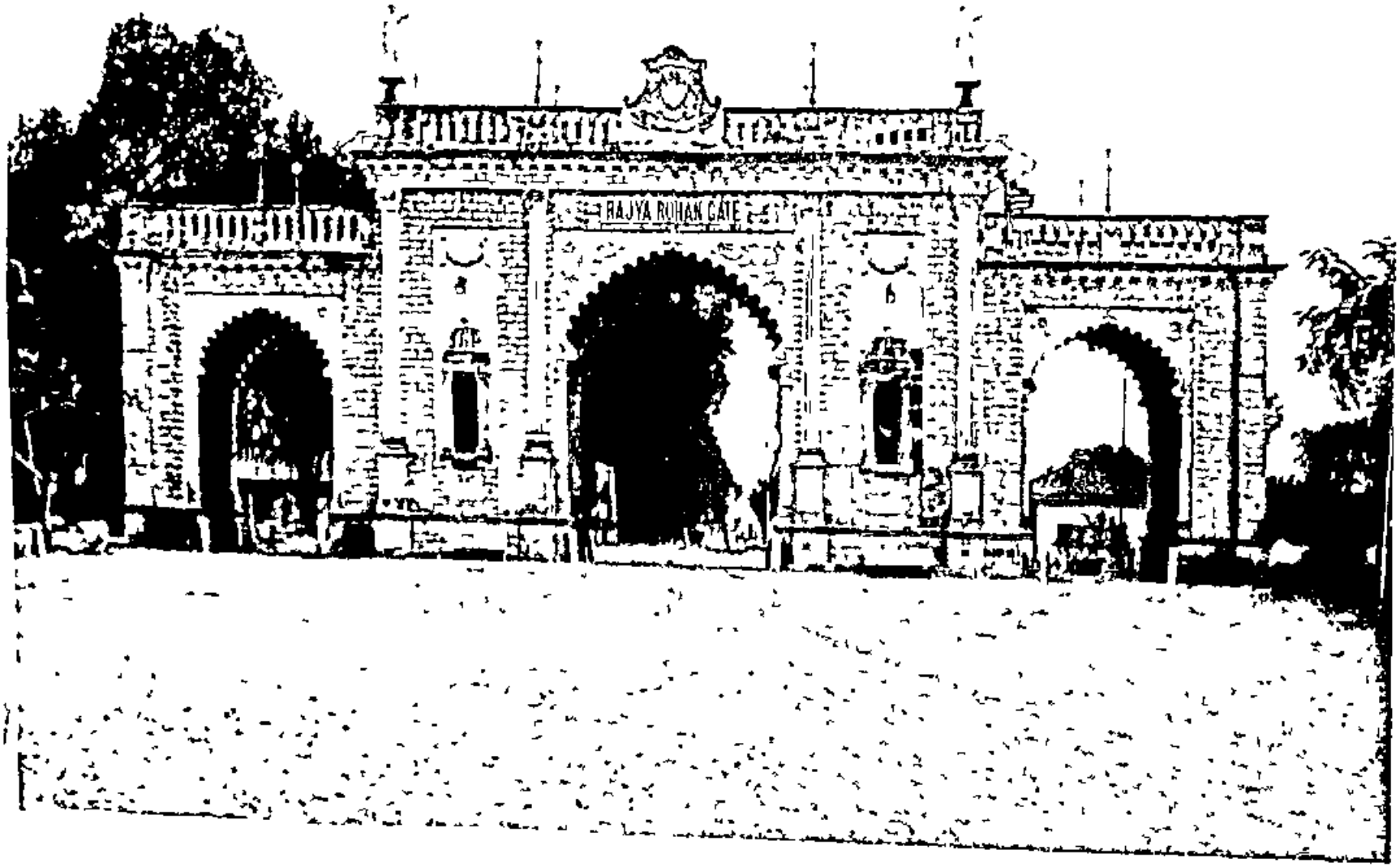
Lakshmandevji succeeded his father on his death in 1566 In his time Gujarat was conquered by Emperor Akbar, in 1573, from Muzaffar Shah II Three years after the conquest, Raja Todar Mal, who had exacted a tribute from the Rao of Sirohi was on his way to Surat , the meeting of the Emperor's financial minister and the Raja of Dharampur took place near Broach The latter paid as his tribute 12,000 rupees in cash and four horses in return for this, a khilat and a permission to keep in his service a small force of 1,500 horses were accorded to him , he was also further required by Todar Mal to assist, with 1,000 horses, the Moghul Viceroy of Gujarat on emergent occasions The death of this prince took place in 1600 whereupon his son Somdevji ascended the throne Old Ajij Koka was then the Viceroy of Gujarat and his son, Jehangir Kuli Khan, was appointed his deputy

Vajir Malik Ambar of Ahmednagar invaded Gujarat and plundered both Baroda and Surat in 1609, and, in order to prevent the repetition of such an outrage a military force of 25 000 horses was stationed at Ramnagar (to the south east of the State) by Jehangir Kuli Khan, and all the chiefs of Gujarat had also to contribute towards the expenses of this defensive corps Somdevji died in 1635 and was succeeded by Ramdevji The court, which his predecessors had held at Asarseta, was removed by him in 1654 to Nagar Fatehpur He contracted friendship with Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha greatness, who passed through the State

on the occasion of the sack of Surat, both in 1664 and 1670. On his death in 1680 Shahdevji came to the throne and he died in 1727; the Marathas came into collision with the State, and they dispossessed the Raja of almost the whole of his dominions consisting of 72 villages, with the exception of the capitals Nagar and Fatehpur, and two other villages, situated in the Nagar Haveli district; also they levied their chowth on the State. It was like robbing Peter to pay Paul. These seventy-two villages were transferred to the Portuguese in compensation for the piracy which the Peshwa's men had committed on their vessels; they still are held by them and form part of the Daman territory. The right of levying the chowth was assigned to the English Government by virtue of the treaty of Bassein in 1802; in lieu of this claim the Dharampur State at the present day makes an annual payment of Rs. 9,000 to the British power. Dharamdevji succeeded his father in 1764. He invited the neighbouring population to reside in a new city, which he founded and named Dharampur after his own name, where he removed his court in 1766, two years after his accession to the Gadi. He survived but eight years after the foundation of his new capital.

Rupdevji succeeded Somdevji in 1787. It was during his reign that the Treaty of Bassein, dated 31st December 1802, was concluded between the Peshwa and the English Government and it assigned in perpetuity all the claims of the Peshwa over the State to the English. In this manner the connection of the State with the British Government was first established and since then the blessings of peace have attended the State. In 1820-21 Mountstuart Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, in recognition of the independence of the State, presented the Raja with a medal and a Khilat. Dharampur was the first among all the States of Gujarat to receive this sort of honour at the hands of the Paramount Power.

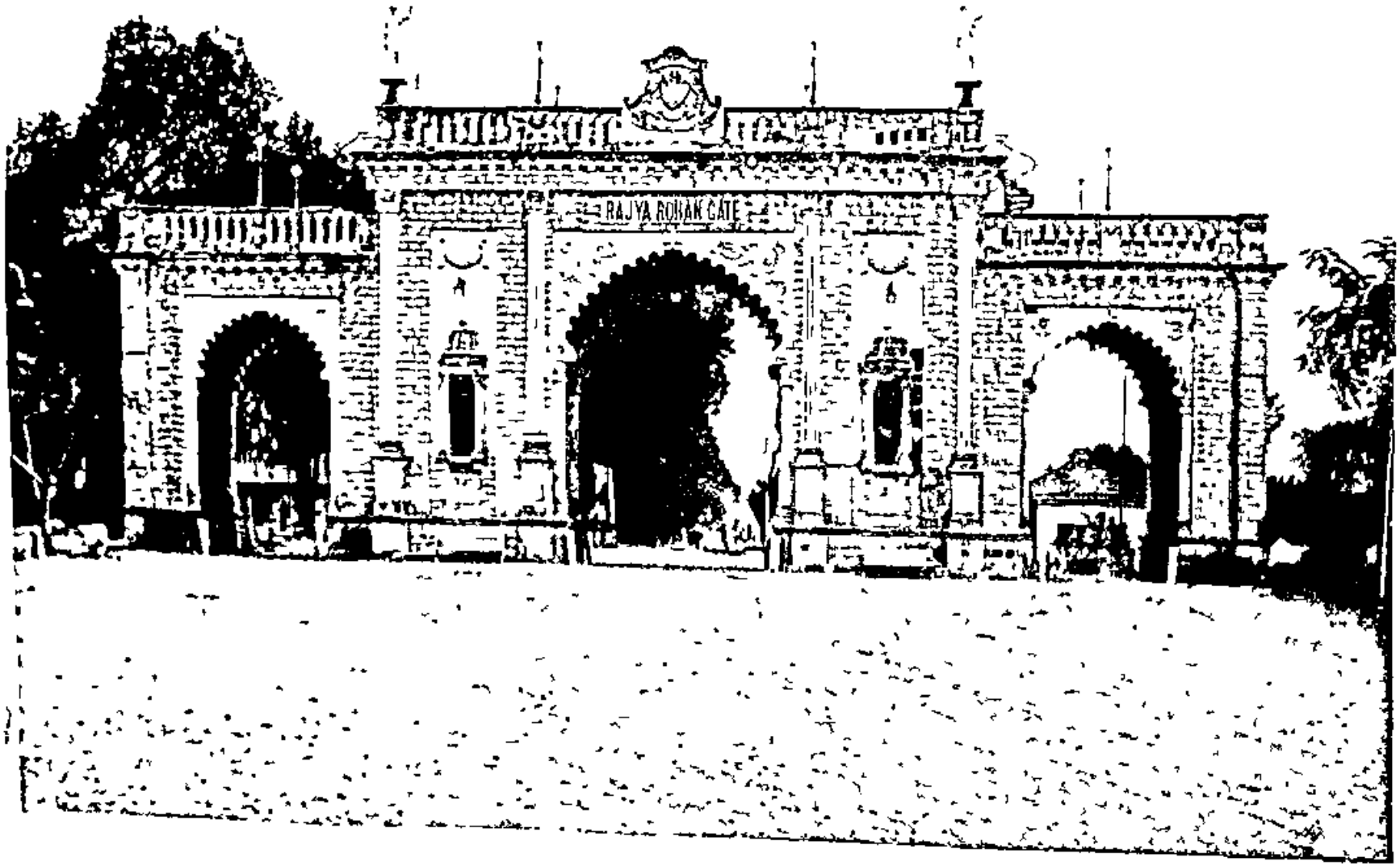
In 1857 Raja Vijayadevji breathed his last. Within three years, his successor, Ramdevji III, followed him to the grave. The issue of his marriage with the daughter of Gumansinhji of Chhota-Udepur was a son born on the 3rd September 1840. Narandevji was the name of this prince who ascended the throne on the 26th January



THE RAJYA ROHAN GATE.



LATE MR VRAJLAL JAGJIVAN MODY TRUSTED FRIEND OF THE MAHARANA



THE RAJYA ROHAN GATE.

1860, at the age of nineteen. After his accession he worked zealously for the good of the people. He reformed the Law Courts and abolished several of the oppressive taxes; he also put down the system of farming the revenues, which prevailed in the State and under which the farmers enriched themselves by grinding the poor. New Departments, educational, police, medical and municipal, were opened. The system of assessment was introduced. In short he took a special interest in the welfare of his subjects. His munificence was also extended to literature.

A sanad authorising the Raja to adopt heirs to the throne on failure of natural heirs without paying Nazars to the Sovereign power was granted to him in 1862 by the Government.

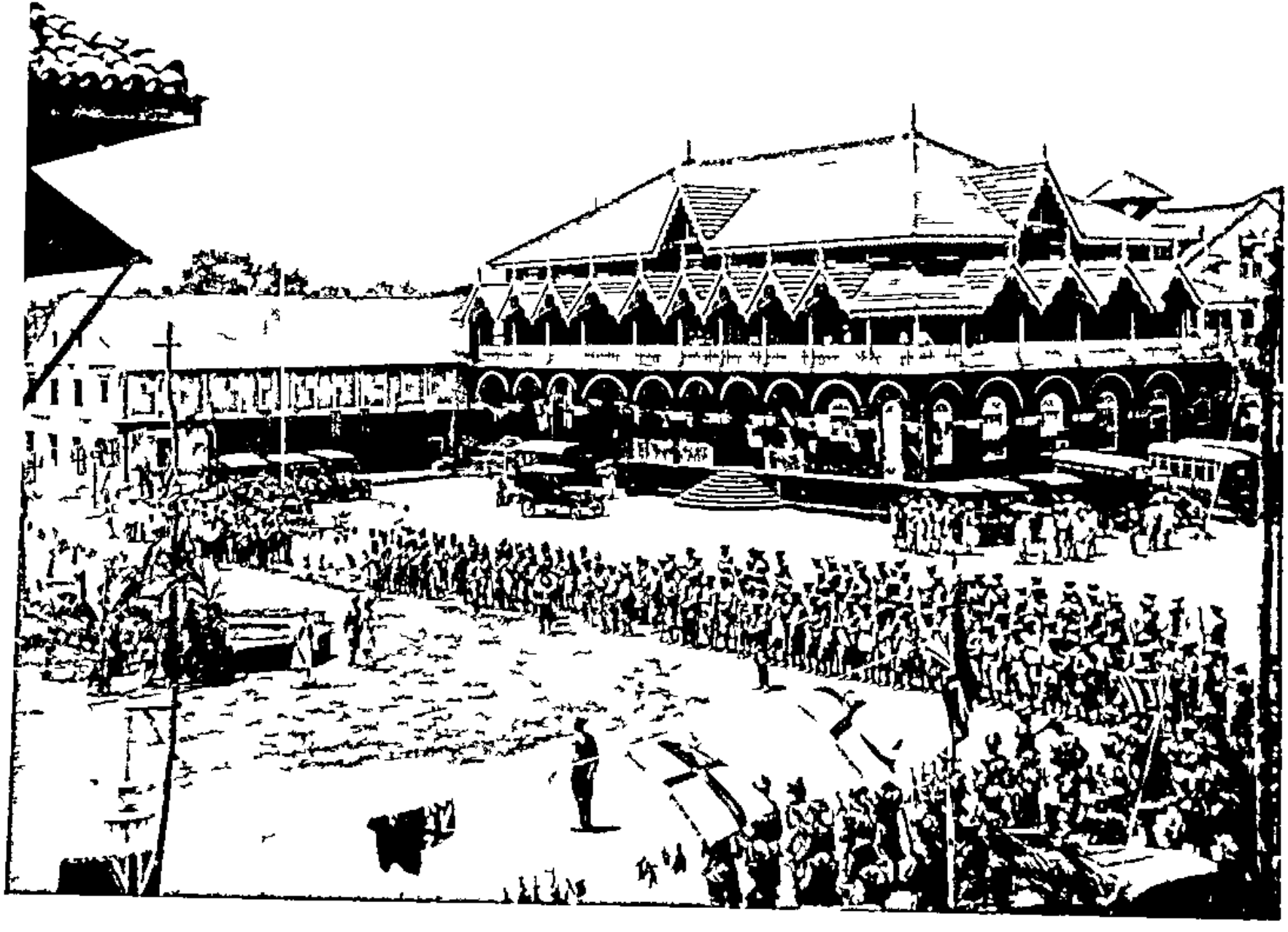
The Raja went to Bombay in 1875 at the time of the arrival of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward VII) to pay his respects to the Royal guest. As a memento of the memorable occasion, His Royal Highness sent to the Raja a medal and a Khilat, through the Agent to the Governor of Bombay at Surat. He was invited to be present at the grand Durbar held at Delhi, by His Excellency Lord Lytton, on the occasion of the assumption of the title of Empress of India by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria but was prevented by ill-health from attending the Durbar.

In 1885 the Raja of Dharampur entered into an extradition treaty with the British Government, which also provided for the surrender of Criminals who may have committed an offence in Portuguese India and be arrested within the boundaries of the State. Next year the State also agreed to an Abkari Agreement, which differed but little from the one which had been accepted by the Bansda State.

Dharampur withstood the onslaught of the Mahomedan rulers as well as its powerful neighbours, the Portuguese; it remained on terms of intimacy with Shivaji but by an irony of fate it was ousted by the Peshwas and deprived of its important Parganas containing no less than 72 villages. In spite of the fact that it was deprived of its important Parganas Dharampur still enjoys the distinction of being the first not only in rank and precedence but also in revenue

among the nine-gun States in the whole of India. Its revenue is equal to that of several first class States. It is the biggest in revenue, area and importance in the Surat Agency and ranks first in precedence among the States in that Agency. In point of loyalty to the British Government the State yields to none.

The State has in its possession an old banner bearing the State coat of arms which was presented by the British Government when Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria assumed the title of Kaiser-i-Hind in 1877 A.D. It bears the designation "His Highness the Maharana of Dharampur."



STATE AND KASHMIR GUARDS OF HONOUR AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE PARTY OUTSIDE THE DARBAR HALL

V

THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA.

A NEW era of progress and civilisation has dawned on Dharampur since Rana Vijayadevji, the present ruler, came to the gadi of his ancestors in 1921, on the death of Maharana Mohandevji which took place in March of that year A number of Indian Princes including His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, were present on the occasion The new ruler, in addressing the gathering assembled in honour of the occasion, said "In the midst and in spite of the unsettled condition of the world, which is inevitable owing to the after-effects of the war, the year 1921 opens with the new era of co operation and mutual trust, to use the words of His Imperial Majesty in His Proclamation of February last This era is a distinct landmark in the history of the world, of British India and particularly in the history of the Indian States There was never in the history of mankind an institution like the League of Nations, nor was it possible a century or even a few decades ago for any imagination to picture an assemblage of over 100 ruling Princes of India sitting together and deliberating over matters of common concern The spirit of unity has begun to pervade and it is that new spirit that has graciously moved Your Highnesses to bless and inaugurate my rule, which by a strange providential coincidence begins with the opening of the new era of co operation and trust"

Addressing his subjects Maharana Vijayadevji said "I offer you my cordial greetings and I congratulate you on the uniformly harmonious relations subsisting between the Ruler and the ruled in our State, although the times are altered and there is considerable unrest everywhere

"I am aware demands are made for the introduction of representative government in Indian States, but as you all know, the political conditions of States and British India vastly differ I may quote here a passage from the speech of Lord Chelmsford

made at the Chiefs' Conference in 1919 : 'I would advise you in planning additions to maintain the fabric of your society and preserve its structure and its solid walls, pillars and towers. The rocks in which they are imbedded are the work of Nature, the foundations were well and truly laid by your ancestors and time has proved the strength of the edifice. I urge you therefore to repair these to develop their design. to add to them the convenience and freedom of our age, but not to demolish them. Do not believe that a brand new modern building can compare as a place of safety, as a work of art or as a true expression of your life and the life of your people with one, which rests on nature's foundations, which has stood the test of centuries and which has grown with your race and embodies its spirit and its traditions.'

'It requires a very careful and deep study, for which obviously I have had no time, both of the problems facing the Indian States in general and of the local needs and sentiments before improvements if any could be made in the system of government.

"On this occasion, however, I desire to assure my subjects that I would devote my best attention to their welfare and their happiness."

The promise thus made at the beginning of his rule has been made good as will be seen from a narrative of the administration during the last six years. On the day of his installation he made the following declarations and concessions :—

There shall be no veth or forced labour in my State. Education will be entirely free, both primary and secondary. The service of the State will be pensionable.

The first act of his rule was the inauguration of a building called the Silver Jubilee Hall which was built for commemorating the jubilee of his late father Maharana Mohandevji.

In requesting His Highness the Maharaja Jam Saheb to declare the Jubilee Hall open and to unveil the statue of the late ruler, Maharana Vijayadevji, said that the late Maharana was educated at Rajkumar College, Rajkot, and by training belonged to the modern generation. He, however, retained some of the eminent



THE TILAK CEREMONY AT THE TIME OF THE INSTALLATION.



SOME SHIKARIS OF DHARAMPUR



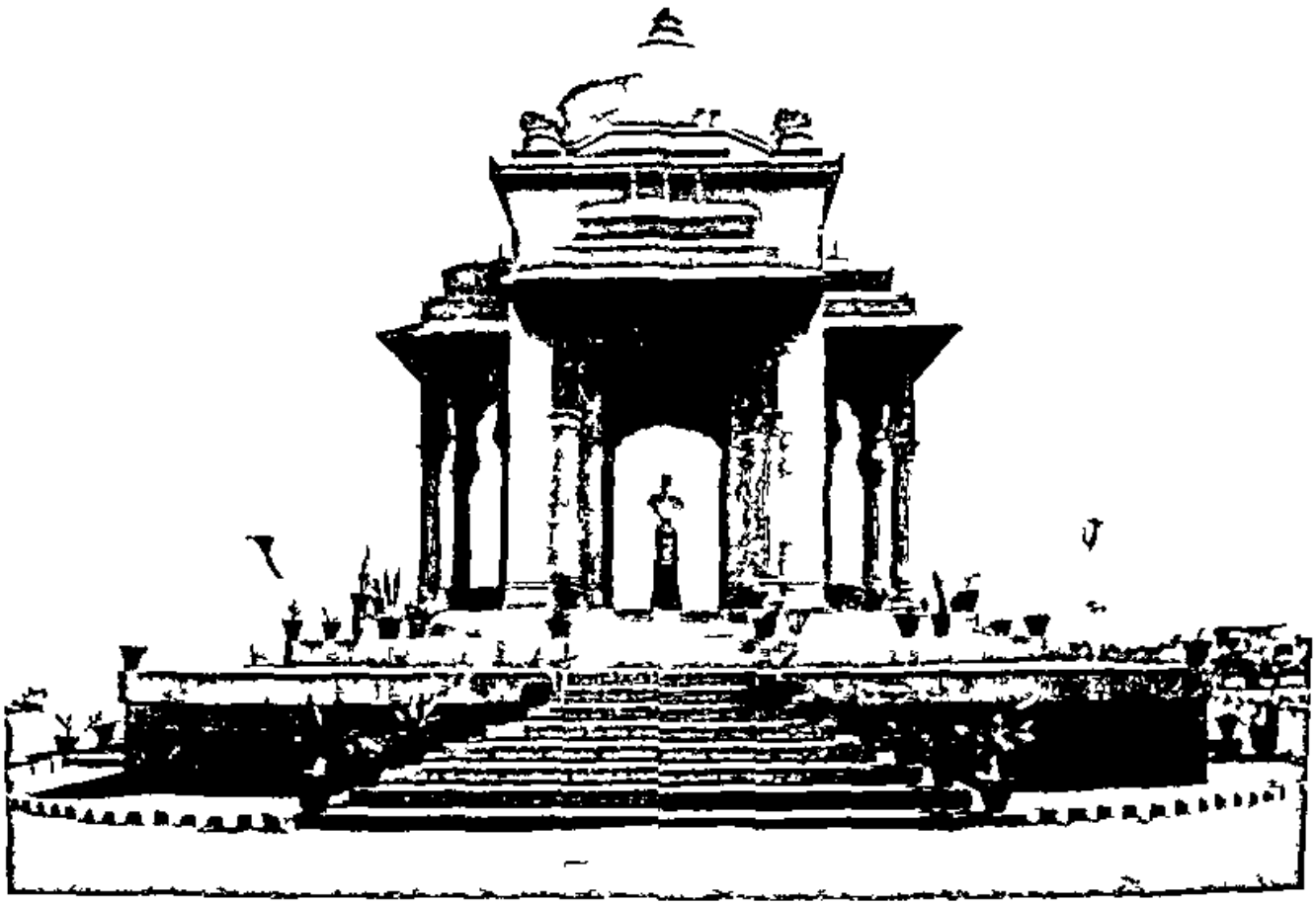
A VIEW OF THE JUNGLE WITH BEATERS



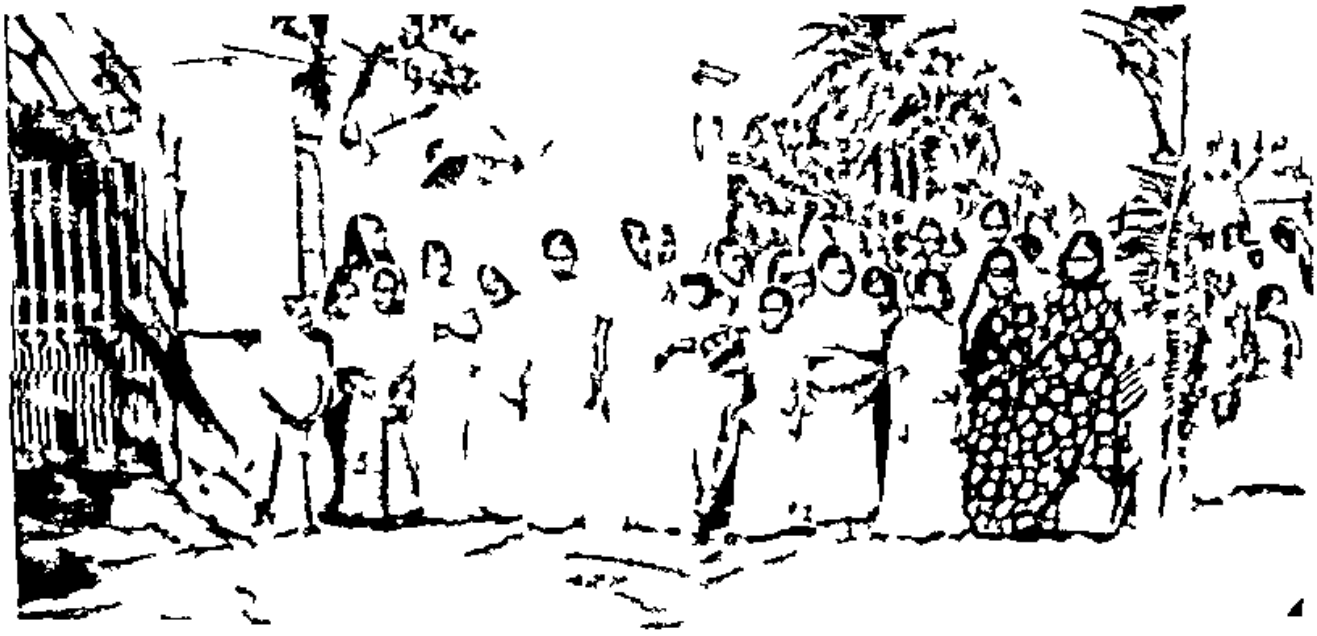
SOME SHIKARIS OF DHARAMPUR



A VIEW OF THE JUNGLE WITH BEATERS



A CHHATRI IN THE WILSON HILLS WITH SIR LESLIE WILSON S BUST



HINDU GIRLS WAITING TO RECEIVE THE GOVERNOR



RANI PARAJ PEOPLE AT MUSIC.

traits of the past generation which was fast disappearing. He had that warm and affectionate heart and possessed in a high degree that inborn princely generosity and that keen solicitude for the welfare of the subjects that were the principal characteristics of the past. The statue and the hall would always keep green the memory of his father and would serve as an impetus to strive for what was best in him.

At the State banquet held on the occasion of his installation Maharana Vijayadevji said: "In this Hall we have varied personalities. There are some among us who are great statesmen endowed with exceptional capacities and have made brilliant marks in the wider political sphere and rendered good services to the States and the Indian Empire; there are some, who have taken liberal education in England and have combined in them what is best in East and West; there are others whose political genius is equal to the times and who have given ample proof of their good intention for the welfare of the people; there are still others smaller in estate, but not lesser in Rajput spirit and loyalty.

While we reflect on the times that have past before us and the future that is lying in front of us, we are struck with the wonderful progress that is observable in the rulers of the State and the people generally, the progress that forces one to be optimistic in every way.

No doubt there is unrest in the world but it is like a storm that precedes the calm, it indicates this birth of a great future for the empire and the world generally".

On the occasion of the installation Maharana Vijayadevji was the recipient of several congratulatory addresses not only from the people of Dharampur but from the residents of Surat, Bulsar and his numerous friends in Bombay. In his reply to these addresses he said that a ruler owed a duty to his people; rulership carried with it a great responsibility and it was his duty to promote the prosperity of his State and of his people and he would do his best to discharge that duty to the satisfaction of the people. He laid great stress upon the necessity of improving the agriculture of the country on which the prosperity of the people depended and he promised to do his best to see that they got the best out of their cultivable land.

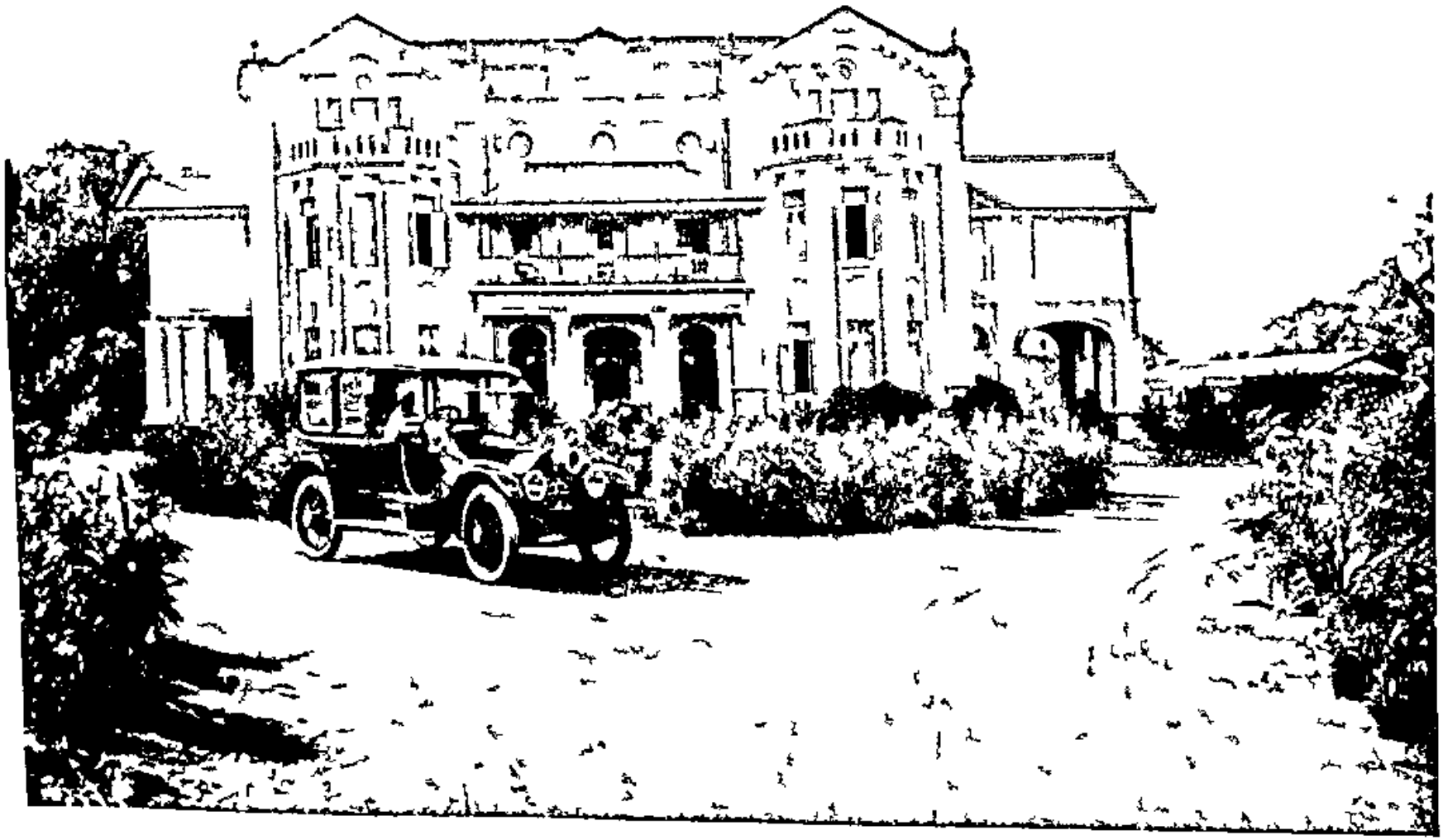
To commemorate his accession to the gadi a gate, called Rajya-rohan Gate, was built, and the ceremony of declaring it open was performed by the Maharaja Saheb of Chhota Udepur. In requesting the Maharaja Saheb to perform the ceremony Maharana Vijayadevji said : " This gate is not built to remind me for ever of my feeling of pride or joy at my accession but to stand as a monument silently speaking to me whenever I passed through it of the great responsibilities I assumed as a ruler when I ascended the gadi of my ancestors.....If ever I run adrift as a humble ruler from the path of my duty I shall look upon this gate for enlightenment and right direction. I thought some kind of monument was necessary as a reminder of my accession and a gate which suggests the completion of one stage of journey and entry into another occurred to me to be the fittest expression of my views and feelings."

In an introduction to the administration report for 1926-27 of Dharampur State Mr. Anupchand J. Mody, the able Dewan, said :

" The facts briefly and formally recorded in this annual administration report make, when examined with discernment and fitted together, a narrative of steady progress of accomplishment and of ambitious hopes for the future of the State of Dharampur.

" The year 1926-27 was characterised in Dharampur by heavy rain early in the season followed by a failure of the late rains, with the result that only a 12-anna crop was harvested. But there was a slight increase in the revenue of the State (Rs. 12,53,560) over the revenue of the previous year and over the average for the past five years. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,95,666.

" His Highness the Raja Saheb is deeply interested in the arts and industries of this country and in the problems of their advancement on which he is well qualified, from his experiences of travel abroad, to form an opinion. He is even more deeply interested in the development of his State and in the betterment of his subjects, the majority of whom the Kaliparaj are primitive in their ways and beliefs, though as the detailed returns show, law-abiding and peaceful. No very marked degree of progress can be attained until these people avail themselves more freely of the opportunities of free



NARSINH VILAS DHARAMPUR



THE A S RASIKKUNVERBA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN DHARAMPUR.

education which are given to them, learn by experience the benefits of the various liberal measures of reform which His Highness has introduced in spite of their conservative opposition, and, adopting more settled habits of life, rise in the social scale above the lowly position that was theirs in the days of forced labour Signs of progress are, however, discernible and there is every reason to anticipate they will become steadily and increasingly apparent.

"Particular attention is being devoted to the improvement of agricultural methods The State is offering plots of land to agricultural graduates who care to settle on them, and it is hoped that their example of up-to-date farming may be profitably followed It is also hoped that the educational effects of Agricultural shows, like that held at Poona last year, may be considerable The Raja Saheb proposes to open a cattle breeding farm on modern lines and is confident that, although it must be some time before the benefits of scientific and controlled breeding are generally appreciated, such a venture must eventually prove most advantageous to the State Agricultural improvement is also being sought by the issue of carefully selected seed and further progress may well be made along the lines of that experiment The valuable forests in the State are being scientifically developed, and good results are looked for from the formation of coupes and the adoption of working plans It can scarcely be doubted that the revenue to be derived from the forests in future years will be very considerable but the extent of the increase to be derived therefrom is obviously dependent on whether communications can be improved, not only by extending the present system of pucca roads but by the construction of a railway line from Bulsar to Dharampur, a project which has long been fostered by His Highness and which is now under consideration by the railway authorities

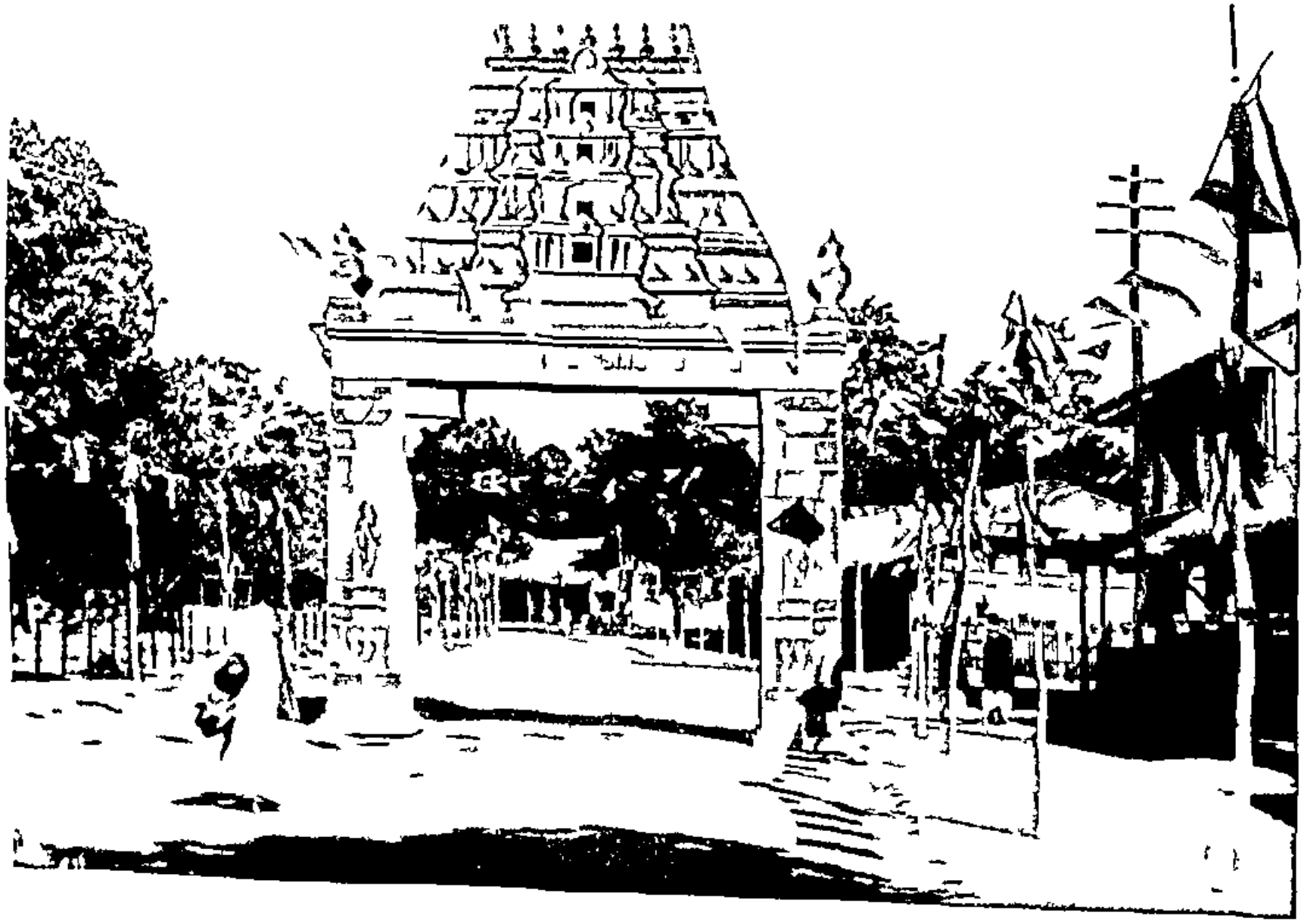
"Among other contemplated development projects of more than local interests is the creation of a hill station in the Pangarbari Hills which rise to the east of Dharampur town to a height of 2,300 feet Ruins of a former capital of the present ruling family are to be found there, and there seems to be no reason why Gujarat should not obtain in these hills a salubrious holiday resort and sanitarium within easy

reach such as it has long needed. The recent construction of seven miles of road to Makadman, leading to the hot springs of Arnai, is also likely to prove of distinct benefit. Those springs are of proved therapeutic value, but, like many other springs in Western India, ave not, owing to difficulties of access, been so popular as they ight easily be. Great efforts are being directed towards improving he health of the people, a new hospital for women has been built; ater supply is being improved, and increased attention is being evoted to sanitation and conservancy. It is hoped that the enefits of the Baby Week movement may be extended to the State nd that a popular exhibition may be held and lectures on the are of infants and mothers may be given during the coming cold weather."

The condition of the people of Dharampur is thus described in the Administration Report.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The Kaliparaj people (Dublas, Naiks, Dhodias, Kunknas, etc.) forming the bulk of the population are primitive in their ways and religious beliefs. They either have small holdings for their livelihood or work as labourers. They leave their homes in the fair season and go to earn money in business centres and return to their fields in the monsoon. Most of the people in the Eastern portion of the State (Kaprada and Hammatmal Mahals) are of migratory habits, resorting to shifting cultivation. To fix them to one place and to enable them to build pucca houses, takavi is given on a liberal scale. They have been given various rights and privileges in forest areas and are now in a position to get raw materials and leaves for thatching their houses and other purposes. They are allowed free grazing, with proper precautions, for their cattle, fuel for domestic purposes and bamboo and timber for their implements of agriculture. Whenever practicable they are employed in the State service. Education is given free in all the State Schools. The chief bar to their advancement was the forced labour system which was abolished by the Raja Saheb at the time of his installation. As the population mostly consists of agriculturists, it has been



A TRIUMPHANT ARCH



ANOTHER VIEW OF FIRST DAY S SHIKAR



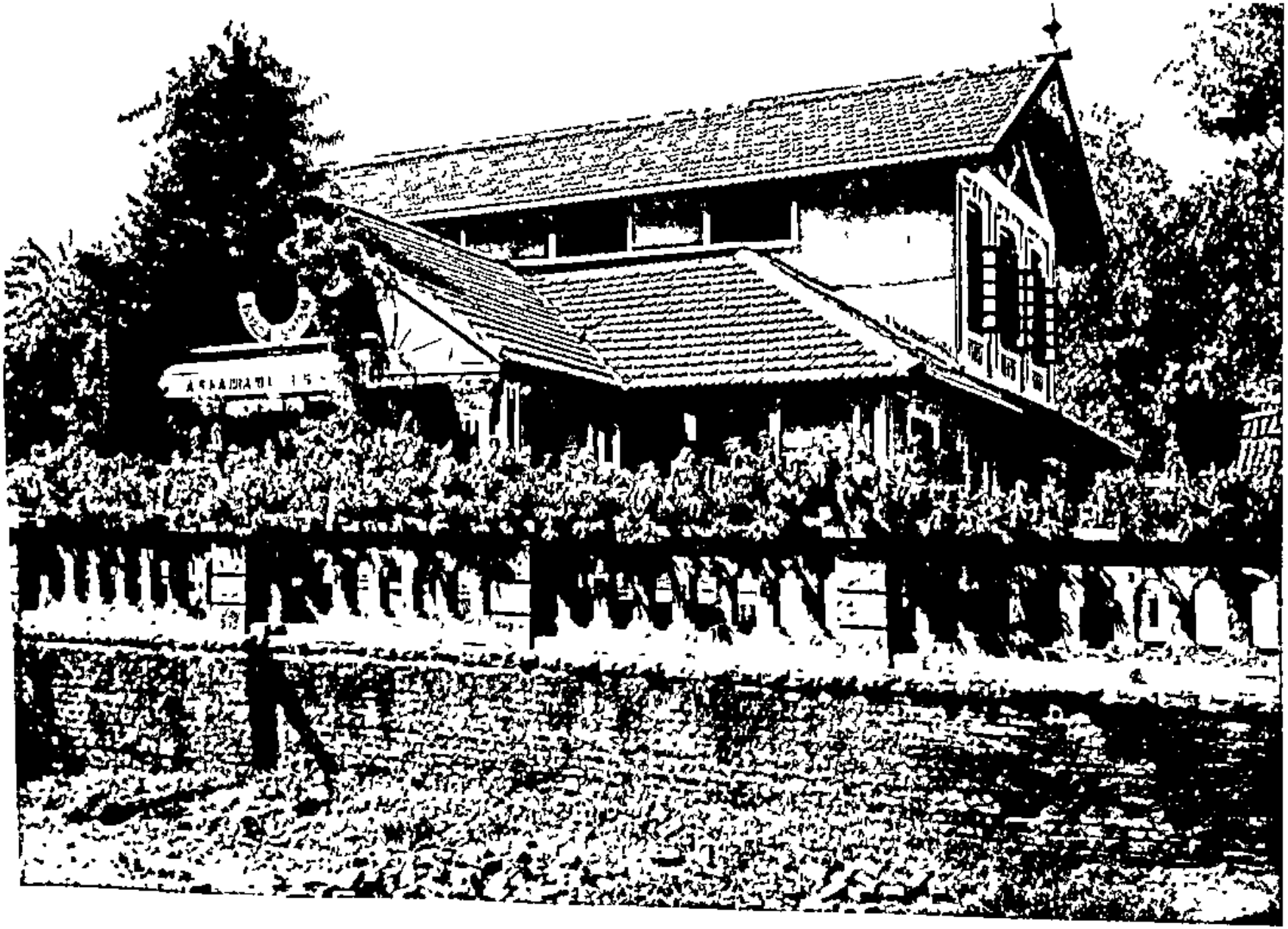
GREEN COTTAGE, DHARAMPUR.

thought desirable recently to open agricultural classes, carpentry also is taught at Rumla School Dhotars have been given by way of presents in order that the more primitive people may learn to cover their bodies in a decent way Suitable changes have been made in the rules of occupancy rights of land so that the ryots may not be deprived of their holdings and reduced to the condition of labourers or come under the clutches of a greedy money-lender They have been given rights over all the trees, including teak and other valuable species, growing on their Khata land As a result of various measures strenuously enforced in spite of opposition from people who were always averse from the slightest alteration or innovation, there are now distinct signs of improvement Those who were most backward now put on decent clothes and comes forward for petty contracts, in fact they are making good progress and are grateful to the Raja Saheb for the amelioration in their condition which used literally to be that of hewers of wood and drawers of water

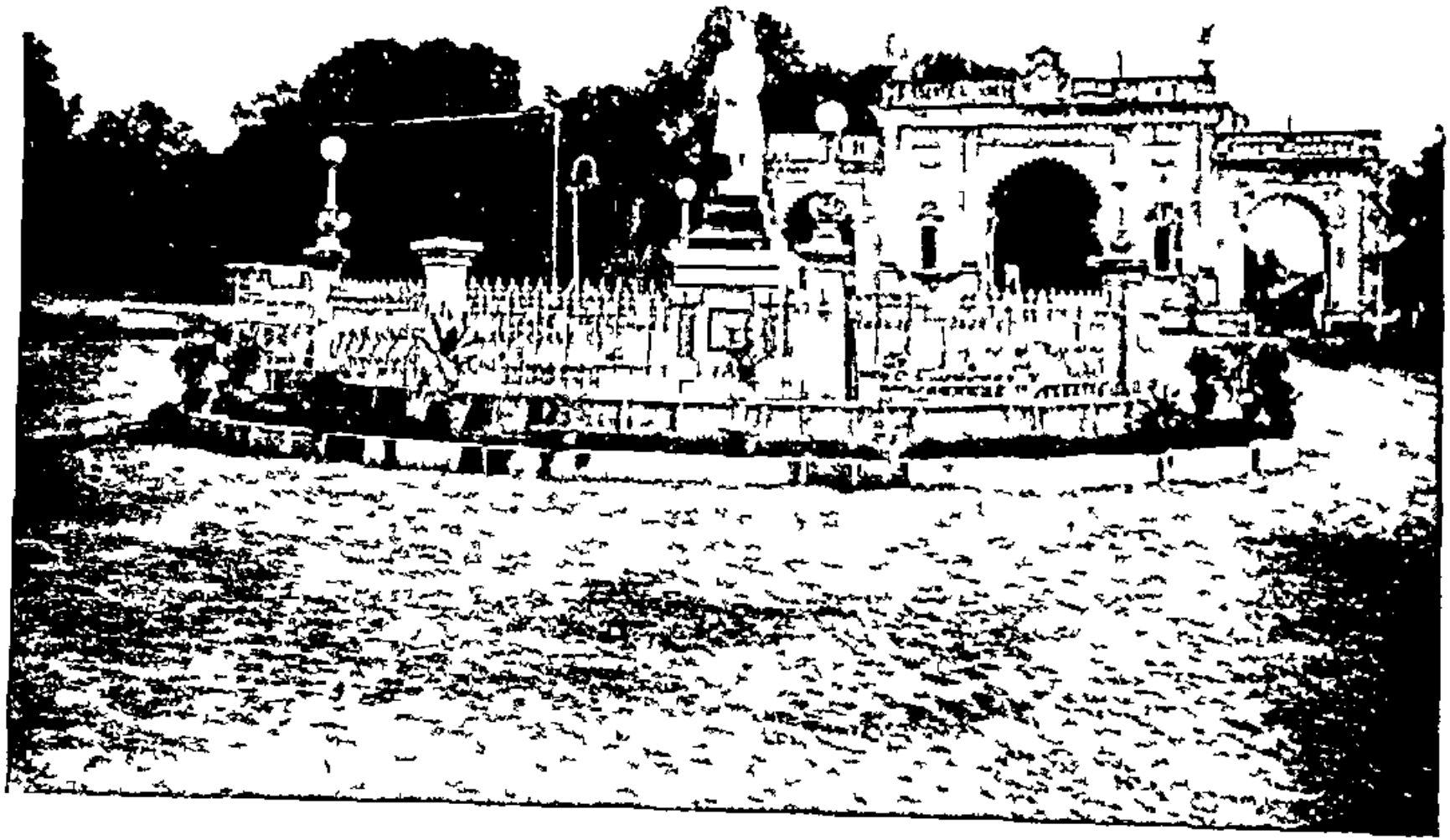
Ujaliat people such as Rajputs Brahmins Parbhoos, Luhanas, Banias reside in Dharampur town, they are mostly dealers in grain and other necessaries of life and carry on money lending business Compared with the Kaliparaj population their number is very limited and mostly confined to the town of Dharampur The artisan classes, such as carpenters, blacksmiths masons are getting good wages and have ample work Most of the Mahomedans are in the service of the State and they also till small plots of land Several Parsi families settled long ago in this State and hold large Khata lands They keep liquor or toddy shops and lend money to the villagers on interest or deal in seeds

is specially intended for those classes who prefer treatment on the Ayurvedic lines. Though opened only a few years ago, its existence has been fully justified, as many sick and suffering go there for treatment. Besides, there is the Vrajlal Jagjiwan Mody Charitable Hospital, fully equipped with surgical instruments of an up-to-date type. The building for a hospital for women is ready and all the necessary arrangements have been made to open it. A new and large building has been completed for the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary and will be occupied at a near date. Medical aid is given free to all the ryots of the State and many outsiders from the adjacent British and other territories derive advantage from it. Dr. Sakerlal Ambelal Desai, M.B.B.S., is the head of the Department and has several qualified assistants under him. There are two midwives and a Lady Doctor on the Medical Staff. The Staff is debarred from taking any fees, even for visits to the houses of any patient. Mr. Trimbaklal Tribhovan Rajvaid is in charge of the Aushadhalaya and though it was opened only a few years back, it is satisfactory to find that the number of outdoor patients was 3,729. The number for the town dispensaries was 13,764 and those for Rumla, Motapondha and travelling dispensaries, 1,835, 2,636 and 183 respectively. In the Vrajlal Jagjiwan Mody Charitable Hospital the number of indoor patients was 96. The total expenditure incurred during the year under the head was Rs. 43,441 against Rs. 39,089 of the preceding year. These institutions do much beneficial work and their utility is gratefully appreciated by the people.

Moore Leper Asylum is a very old and popular institution of the State affording great relief to those stricken with leprosy. During the year under report, the number of inmates was 47. They are provided with food, clothing and treated medically. There is no compulsion but people of their own free will send their relatives when the first symptoms of the disease appear as they have realised that segregation and the shelter afforded by the Asylum will be beneficial to all parties concerned. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,107 against Rs. 2,636 of the preceding year. There were 8 fresh admissions bringing the total to 47, of whom 1 absented himself, 9 died and 37 remained in the Asylum at the close of the year.



THE A. S. MAJI RAJBA GIRLS' SCHOOL, DHARAMPUR.



THE MAHARANA S STATUE DHARAMPUR

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION.

The Raja Saheb has taken a great interest in the education of the people of the State because he believes that unless the agriculturists are educated their prosperity will not be assured. Similarly the Maharani takes a great interest in the education of the girls of the State. Education has continued to receive the sympathetic attention of the Raja Saheb. Including the Maharana Shri Mohandevji High School and a Girls' School specially opened for Mahomedans there are in all 28 schools in the State. Two more schools will shortly be opened as soon as the necessary preliminaries are completed. The High School sent up 12 boys for the School Leaving Examination, of whom 7 were successful. One student passed the Drawing Examination. On the 31st March 1927 the total number of boys on rolls of all the schools was 1,804 against 1,658 of the preceding year and the figures for the average attendance were respectively 1,130.9 and 1,050.4. On the whole there is a steady increase in the number of school-going boys and girls. Nature study classes recently introduced in the vernacular school of the town are making good and steady progress.

With a view to teach carpentry to the pupils of the rural areas, a class has been opened at Rumla. The boys take a keen interest in their work as instruction is imparted with amusement. Lessons in agriculture with practical demonstration on the field are given in several schools. A special qualified Inspector has been engaged for the purpose who goes round the schools. It is hoped that training of this kind will be directly useful to the boys from rural areas where agriculture is almost the only occupation of the people.

Education is free throughout the State in all the schools, including the Maharana Shri Mohandevji High School.

Mr. B. S. Unde, B.A., Science Teacher of the State School, was deputed to attend the meeting of the Bombay Presidency Secondary Teachers' Association at Poona in November 1926. Several teachers of the High School visited the Government High School at Surat to learn the best methods of imparting instruction, as the Raja Saheb intends to make the High School a model of its kind.

The following scholarships are given to deserving pupils :—

1 Scholarship of Rs. 75 per month tenable for 5 years is being given to a student studying in the Grant Medical College.

1 Scholarship of Rs. 40 per month tenable for 4 years was given to a student studying in Poona Agricultural College for B.Ag. degree (the recipient of this Scholarship Mr. Kanchangir Nengir having got the B.Ag. degree was appointed as Agri-Horticultural Officer in May 1927).

1 Scholarship of Rs. 30 per month tenable for 2 years is given to a student studying in Arts College. He is to be given Rs. 75 per month for three years to qualify himself for B.E. Exam.

1 Scholarship of Rs. 20 per month tenable for 3 years was given to a student studying in the Tata Arts School, Navsari.

21 Scholarships of varying amounts (total monthly Rs. 69) are given to pupils in the different schools of the State.

Besides these, 3 scholarships of the aggregate amount of Rs. 15 per month are given from interest of the fund placed with State by private individuals, Mr. Prabhakar and Mr. B. B. Joshi, Barrister-at-Law.

Students have evinced great interest in cricket. A Gymnasium located in the High School and the Vernacular School premises is taken advantage of by many boys who learn from a Gymnastic Instructor. Drill is regularly taught to all the boys of the High School. The occasional sports gatherings organised by the Raja Saheb to give a great impetus to physical education. Prizes are distributed by the Raja Saheb on these occasions.

The Raja Saheb does not confine his attention only to his State but he takes a deep interest in affairs outside his State and gives subscriptions to well deserving institutions in the British territory. The following are some of the amounts given in 1926-27 :—

(1) Rs. 2,000 were paid towards the contribution of Rs. 6,000 for a Library for the Surat Arts College.

(2) Rs. 1,500 were given to the Gujarat Arts Exhibition at Surat.

(3) Rs. 1,500 were paid as donation towards the Bombay Presidency Agricultural Show, Ahmedabad, to be held in December next.



SOME OF THE SHIKAR TROPHIES OF THE MAHARANA SAHEB

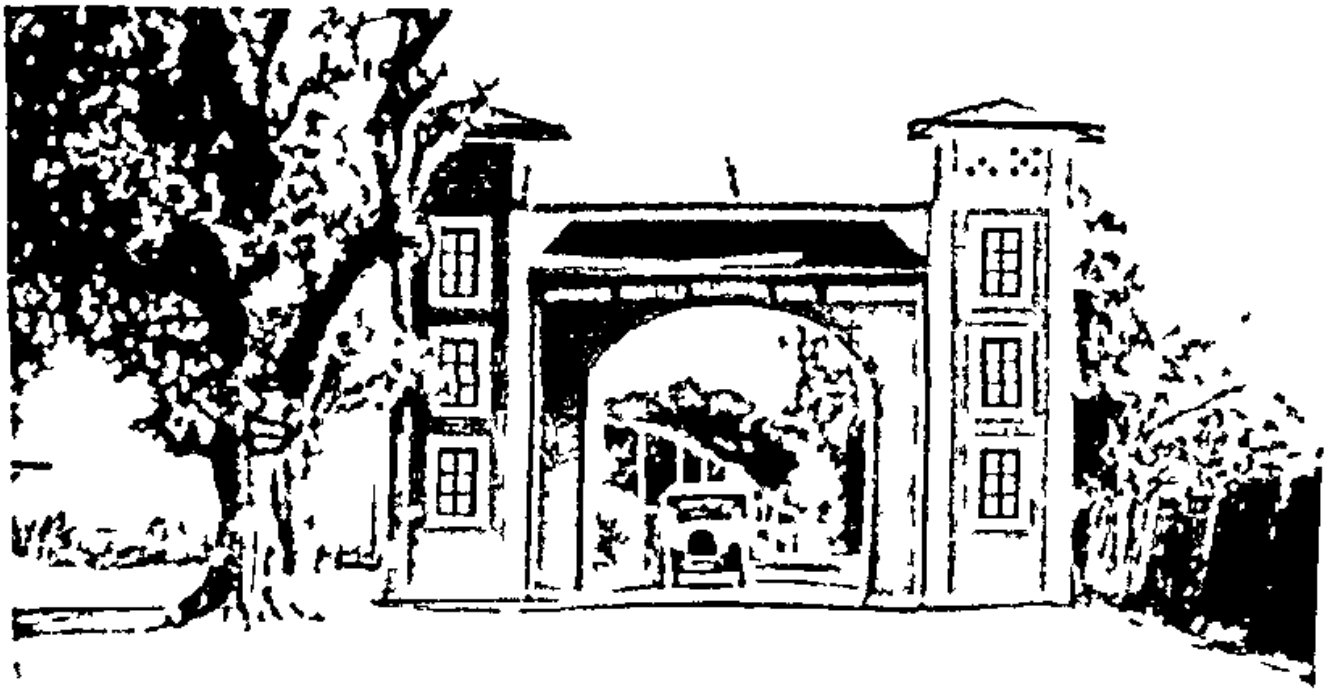
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ANOTHER TRIUMPHANT ARCH



RANIPARAJ DANCERS



A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE WILSON HILLS

(4) Rs. 1,000 were paid as contribution to the Bombay Presidency Agricultural Show, Poona.

(5) A donation of Rs. 5,000 was made towards the Funds of the Bulsar Local Board owing to its straitened condition.

(6) Rs. 2,755 were subscribed to the Bombay Humanitarian League Fund and for other related objects such as publishing literature to show that animal sacrifice has no religious sanction.

(7) Rs. 1,000 have been promised to the Fête to be held in February next at Bombay in aid of the Bombay Hospital Nursing Associations and Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund.

(8) Rs. 1,000 were paid as donation to the Indian Women's University at Poona.

(9) A sum of Rs. 500 was given as donation to the Digvir Club at Bansda.

(10) A sum of Rs. 100 was paid to the Bandra Mount Mary's Convent Fund and another sum of Rs. 50 to the Bombay St. Joseph's Home and Nursing Fund.

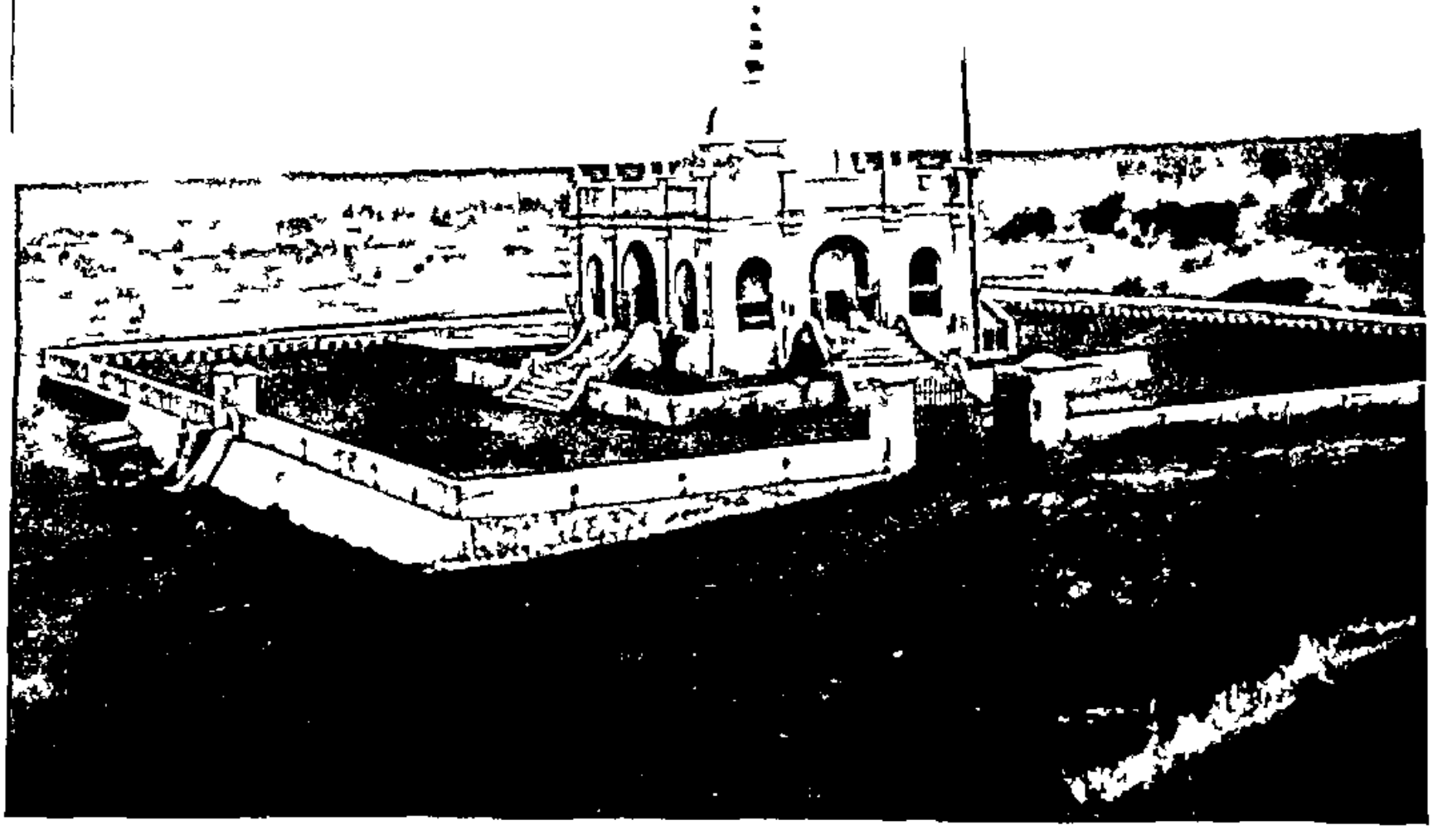
On the occasion of the disastrous floods in Gujarat and Kathiawar, the Raja Saheb convened a meeting of his subjects and collected a good sum of money for the relief of sufferers, the Maharani and himself and the Dewan Saheb making substantial contributions to the fund.

Raja Saheb Vijaydevji has travelled extensively through Asia and Europe and obtained an insight into the affairs of the world. As former revenue commissioner in his father's regime he had already become familiar with affairs of administration, and he has now placed his knowledge and experience at the disposal and in the service of his people. On the occasion of his visit to Shanghai he was presented with an address by the Parsi community of the colony in recognition of the services rendered by his renowned ancestors to the members of the community in olden times. The address referred to the enlightened rule of the Maharana and his anxiety to promote the welfare of his community and alluded to his keen interest in the Parsi community.

VI

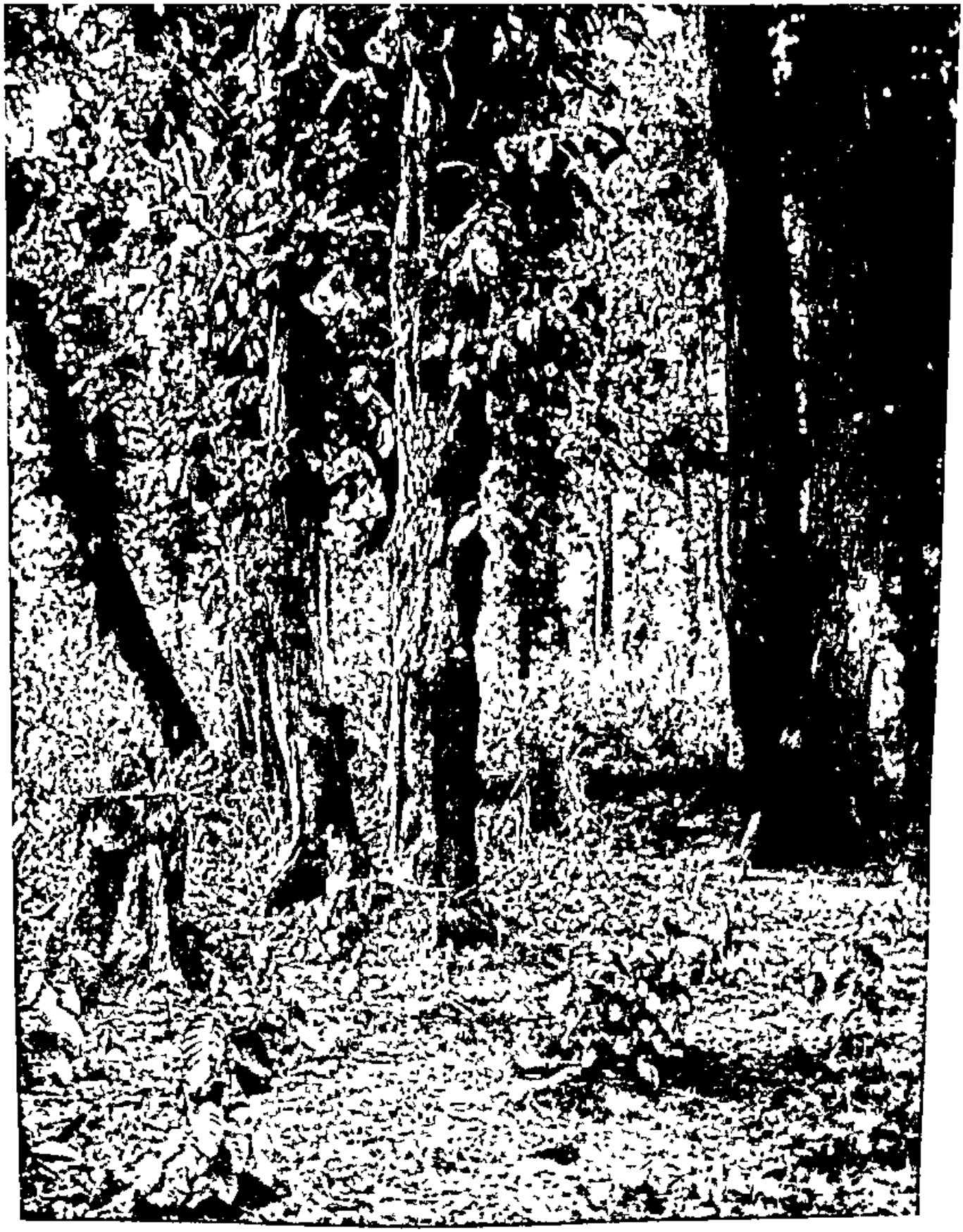
DHARAMPUR'S WAR SERVICES.

DURING the war, the late ruler of Dharampur placed all the resources of the State at the disposal of Government. Over a hundred men were raised, some of whom were selected to serve as soldiers, while others were used for labour. These recruits were given a good sum of money as reward or inam, and arrangements were made by the State to maintain their families in their absence or in case of their demise. Their children get free education, books and other school requisites Rs. 35,000 were given in cash for war expenses over and above other sums subscribed as donations for different war purposes. Several lakhs of pounds of grass and several thousand bags of rice were given for the army. The Darbar took a great deal of interest in the two war loans and subscribed to the extent of five lakhs and a quarter. The contributions and donations of Dharampur State to various war charities and war relief objects amounted to over one lakh of rupees and the Darbar gave its hearty support to the common cause in every possible way. The present ruler, then heir-apparent, offered his personal services but they were not utilised. Considering the size and revenue of the State, the war contributions of the State to the Imperial Government may be regarded as splendid. The present ruler continues to maintain the loyal traditions and there is hardly any doubt that if an occasion arose in future, he will not be slow to draw his sword for the King Emperor and the British Empire.



THE MARUTI TEMPLE AT MOHANGADH DHARAMPUR

APPENDICES.



A FORLST VIEW.



THE RIVER PAR AT VAHIAL IN FLOOD

APPENDIX A.

A GREAT PAGEANT.

DHARAMPUR WEDDING

UNION OF TWO INDIAN STATES

(Reprinted from "The Times of India")

DHARAMPUR, May 1

THE wedding of Raja Saheb Sir Harisinhji, K C I E, K C V O, heir-apparent of Kashmir, with Shrimant Baiji Dhanvant Kunvar Baiji Saheb, the eldest daughter of His Highness Maharaja Vijaysinhji of Dharampur, has been made the occasion of great rejoicing in both the States It has created great enthusiasm among the populace of these two historic States The wedding festivities commenced about twelve days ago and are still continuing A round of entertainments has been arranged on a lavish scale of expenditure befitting the dignity of the States and nothing has been left undone to make the auspicious occasion a great success Kashmir is one of the largest and most prosperous States in India Raja Sir Hari Sinhji will inherit it in due course His private fortune, however, is enormous and runs into several crores of rupees He has received excellent training at Mayo College and he has inherited the virtues of statecraft from his illustrious father Raja Sir Amarsinhji, who administered the State for a number of years in a very efficient manner

Raja Sir Harisinhji holds enlightened and liberal views and has got a striking personality He has been already initiated in the administration of the State and he now holds the portfolio for Foreign affairs He has a great passion for work and his one aim in administration is thoroughness and efficiency His hospitality is proverbial and he has now found a bride who will enable him to keep up the great traditions of the State While Kashmir is one of the most flourishing States in India, Dharampur is comparatively a very small State but in point of historic interest and antiquity it is of great importance The Ruler, Maharaja Vijaysinhji, belongs to that famous clan of Seesodia Rajputs, who trace their origin to the solar dynasty

This State is situated in the Surat District and is about 18 miles from Bulsar. Maharaja Vijaysinhji came to the gadi of his ancestors only two years ago, but in the short interval he has overhauled the administrative machinery and has brought the State in line with well-administered States.

Thousands of Visitors.

On the occasion of this wedding it revealed that it was capable of wonderful resources which enabled it to cope with the great demand made upon it during the last fortnight. Thousands of visitors have arrived from different parts of India; several Indian Princes have graced the occasion with their presence and deputations have come in from several Indian States. The Baroda State was represented by Sir Manubhai Mehta, Bhavnagar was represented by Sir Prabhashankar D. Pattani, while the Bombay Government was represented by Mr J. E. B. Hotson, Political Secretary to Government. Mr. Shaikh Mahomed Kadir represented the Khairpur State; the Heir-Apparent of Shahpura, a feudatory of the Udaipur State, represented his father, His Highness the Thakore Saheb of Morvi and Raja Saheb of Chhota Udaipur also responded to the invitation of the father of the bride and arrived at Dharampur several days before the wedding which took place on the 30th April with great eclat. A number of guests have come from Bombay including Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola, Mr. B B. Joshi, Mr. J. Marten and others, while Mr. Macmillan, Collector of Surat and Mr. Kirpalani, Deputy Collector, and Mr. Anderson, Settlement Officer, were also among the guests.

Arrival of the Bridegroom.

His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Kashmir and Jammu and the bridegroom arrived at Dharampur on the 29th April. They were accompanied by His Highness the Nawab Saheb of Palanpur, Kumar Shri Digivjaysinhji, Heir-Apparent of Limbdi; the Raj Kumar of Poonch and Maharaj Kumar Jagatdevsinhji, Raja Saheb of Chaneni, the Tika Saheb of Ramkot and Rajas, Reises and Talukdars of Kashmir State; also members of the Executive Council of the Kashmir State, including Mr. Ardesar Dossabhoy Hakim, Chaudhuri Kushi Mahomed and Colonel Janak Singh There was a large retinue of followers numbering about 1,200 people who were attired in the picturesque Kashmiri dress and added to the attraction of the show. A fleet of taxis and motor-buses were engaged to bring the large number of guests from Bulsar to Dharampur and several camps were pitched for their accommodation. The fact that this small State was enabled to accommodate



A BIRD'S-EYE-VIEW OF THE TOWN, NORTH SIDE, DHARAMPUR.

thousands of guests and to look after their comforts is no small compliment to the resources of the State and its powers of organisation.

Dharampur Looking Gay.

Dharampur has been looking gay for the last several days and its palaces and main buildings and the routes have been decorated on an extensive scale. The buildings and camps are attractively illuminated and " tamashas " have been provided for the guests as well as the subjects of Dharampur State The poor are daily fed and sweetmeats distributed among them Processions are the order of the day. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Kashmir and Jammu with Raja Sir Harisinhji, His Highness the Nawab Saheb of Palanpur and others, made a State entry on the 29th April The procession was an imposing sight and was witnessed by thousands of people The wedding procession as it passed through the city on its way to the Palace on the night of the 30th April afforded a most spectacular sight It was composed of several thousand people including the Indian Princes who have arrived in Dharampur to take part in the celebration they all walked to the Palace in front of the bridegroom who rode on an elephant The Dharampur and Kashmir bands took part in the processions, while the retinues of followers of several States in the variegated colours of their dress also took part in the processions The wedding ceremony was performed according to Hindu rites after which the bride was taken in procession to Nrisinha Vilas, the temporary abode of Raja Sir Harisinhji at Dharampur

Kashmir Festivities

While Dharampur is *en fete* for nearly a fortnight the festivities, at Jammu, the winter capital of Kashmir, commenced on the 18th April and will last for another week Among the Ruling Princes who visited Jammu on the occasion of the wedding festivities were His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Patiala, His Highness the Maharaja of Dholpur and His Highness the Nawab Saheb of Palanpur Deputations with rich poshaks as wedding presents came in from almost all the States in India and the guests were feted in a right royal manner The bridegroom s party was conveyed to Bulsar by two special trains and this taxed the utmost energy of the officials who had to make arrangements for the conveyance of more than 1,200 guests Arrangements were made at nine intermediary stations for their meals and elaborate arrangements were also made so as to avoid the slightest inconvenience to the passengers.

THE STATE BANQUET.

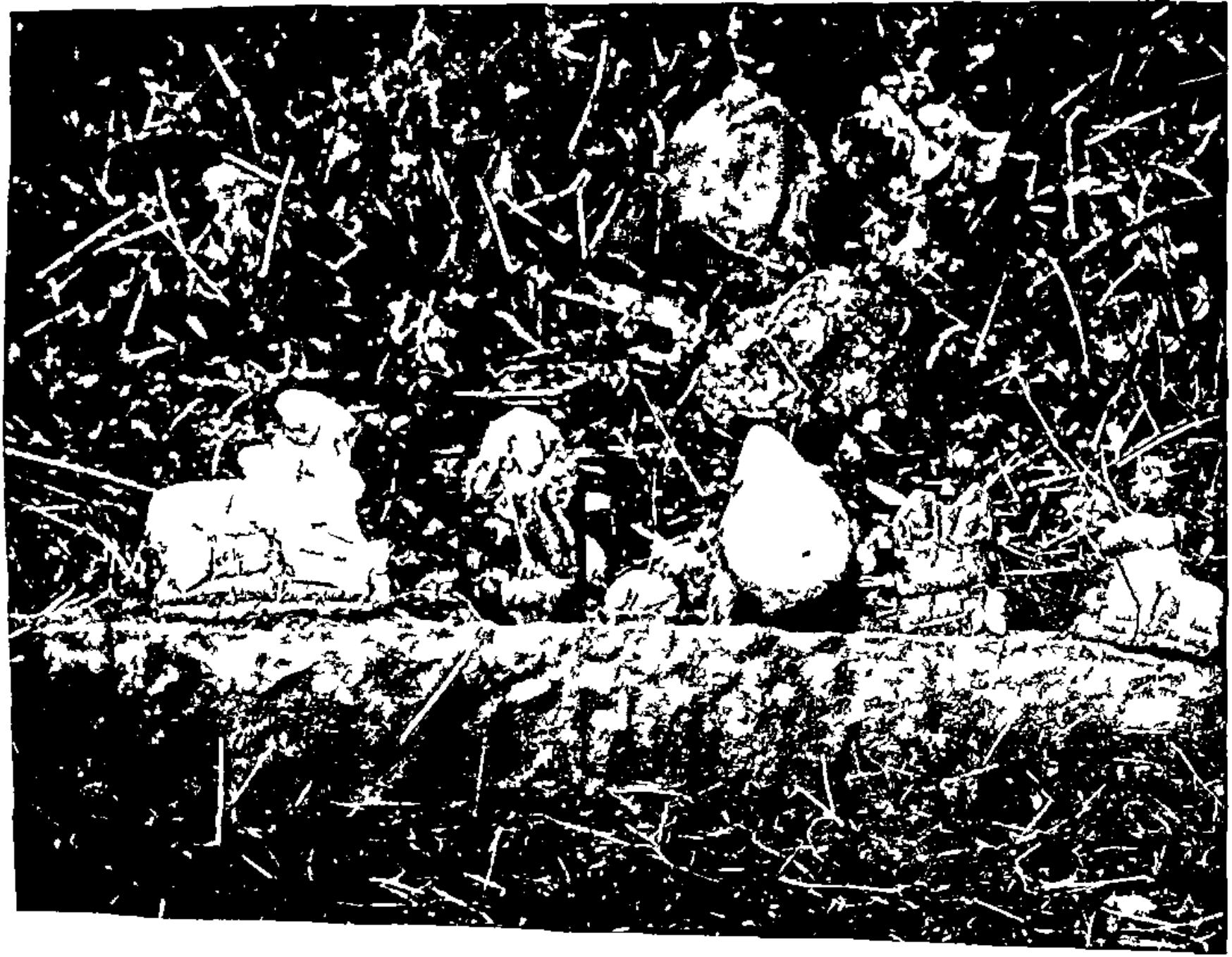
THE MAHARANA SAHEB OF DHARAMPUR gave a banquet at Dharampur on Tuesday last in honour of the wedding of his daughter with Raja Si Harisinhji, Heir-apparent of Kashmir It was a brilliant success and passed off successfully After the usual loyal toasts were drunk the Maharaja Saheb of Dharampur, *in proposing the health of His Highness the Maharaja* of Kashmir, said —

Before I proceed to say a few words about His Highness, I would take this opportunity, the very first public opportunity, to accord my most respectful, affectionate and cordial welcome to my most distinguished and illustrious guest, *Lieut -General His Highness Sir Pratapsinhji, Indar Mâhindar, Sipar-i-*Saltant, Maharaja Saheb of Jammu and Kashmir, for honouring me by his presence in my humble capital on this auspicious occasion, an event of which I will ever cherish an abiding and grateful memory I will ask you now to turn your mind to some of those rare qualities which we find combined in His Highness Ordinarily, a soldier, seldom a scholar, a sportsman, seldom a scientist But our honoured guest is blessed with an admirable variety of faculties Like the territory over which he rules, the land of varying temperature, aptly called the land of "Fan and fur" and "Lalla Rookh" His Highness presents in a remarkable degree a combination of traits rare to be seen in these days His love for the military which is up to date in efficiency as proved by the late world war, never interfered with his general development in other branches some of which are diametrically opposed His Highness was a diligent student in his earliest years he studied Sanskrit and became acquainted with the best authors in English literature and, what is remarkable, with the principles of science, medicines, and law Along with his studies His Highness kept up and developed his sportsman's instinct in wrestling, cricket and horsemanship

KASHMIR S EARLY GLORIES

It cannot be denied that man's disposition is greatly moulded by the land and surroundings under which he is living Kashmir has, from the earliest times even from the mythological period of Goddess Parvati, boating on the Satisar lake or the happy valley, been the land of romance, of poetry of religion its glorious king was worshipped by the region which Kailas lights up and which the tossing Ganga clothes with a soft garment

It was the favourite place of two of the greatest Emperors of India, whose names and deeds have come down to us and whose memories are still blessed It was in the times of Asoka that Shrinagar was at its heights of prosperity



SOME OF THE RUINS ON THE PINDVAL PEAK OF THE WILSON HILLS



THE AVENUE ON THE WAY TO THE WILSON HILLS

consisting of 96 lakhs of houses resplendent with wealth It was after eight centuries visited by the famous Chinese pilgrim and historian—that great Hiuen Tsang whose works are still perused with interest As beauty is a source of attraction Kashmir fell a prey to many military adventurers for centuries together until order was restored by that Great Mogul Emperor Akbar He evinced special interest in Kashmir to administer which he posted a minister whose name is also a household word in the whole of India and whose songs are even in these days sung in Gujarat and Kathiawar on marriage occasions I mean the great Todarmall

Love of Learning

His Highness Maharaja Saheb Pratapsinghji like his great and worthy predecessors in rule Asoka and Akbar has exhibited some of their rare qualities His love of learning is known by the splendid grants he made in honour of the Royal visit of 1911 in aid of primary education by the innumerable prizes and scholarships he established and by the sumptuous gifts he announced of literary pensions

The catholicity of His Highness is equally great There are high officers of all communities and creeds in the State service Hindus and Mahomedans alike

But what is the rarest of the rare in these materialistic days of mammon worship is the unshakable faith of His Highness in the belief and practice—our Dharma He is rare among the Chiefs in his devotion to the orthodox type of Hinduism spending mornings and evenings in the observance of religious worship Another great trait of the older generation which is dying out now but which has been preserved by His Highness is his simplicity towards his subjects in dealing with them in hearing their grievances and redressing them so far as possible by making personal inquiries he sympathises with them in their difficulties and troubles

The Maharaja's Reply

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Kashmir in responding to the toast said

Maharaja Vijayadevji has bestowed very high praise on me by mentioning my name in the same breath with Asoka and Akbar two great names to conjure with in Indian history and he has also said many nice and more than kind things about me Permit me to say at once that I do not possess one tithe of the qualities which he has found in me

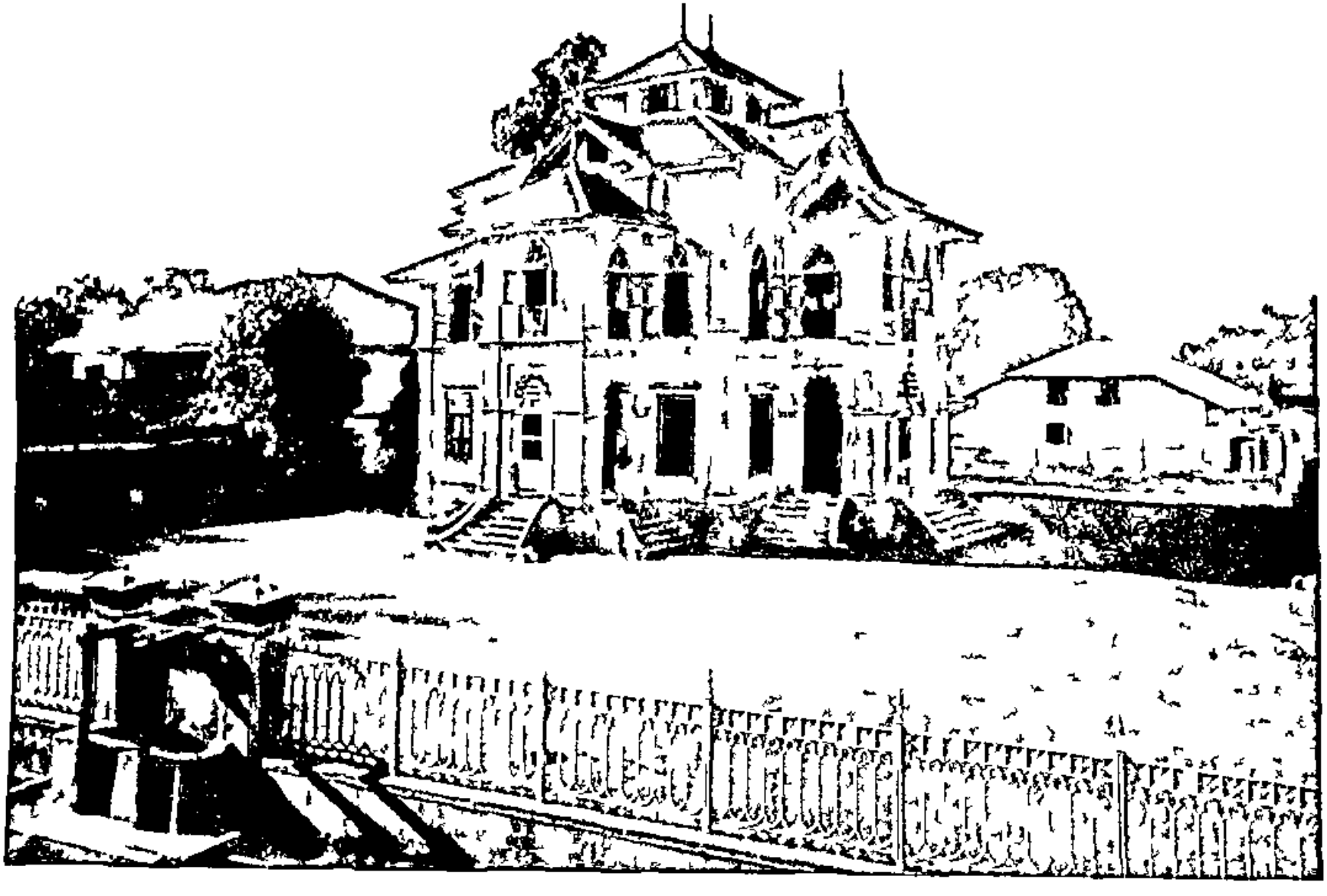
Shri Maharana Sahib has also called me a scholar and a scientist, but I wish to tell you that I have no pretensions that way. Shri Maharana Saheb has depicted in glowing periods the charms, the beauties and attractions of Kashmir, the glamour it has all along cast upon the mind of man. It is true that Kashmir makes an appeal to man which no other country does in the world. But 'Shunida Kai Bawad Manind Dida' and I hope Maharana Sahib will do me the honour of seeing Kashmir one day.

This marriage whose auspicious and happy conclusion we are celebrating here to-night has been the means of uniting the Kachhawas of Jammu and Sissodias of Dharampur and my fervent prayer to the Almighty in which I hope you all join in that He may bless this union.

Palanpur Ruler Complimented.

In this connection I cannot but mention the name of His Highness Nawab Sir Taley Mohammad Khan, Ruler of Palanpur. He deserves my very best thanks and acknowledgments in an unstinted measure for all that he acting with feelings of friendliness has done for our houses, and posterity shall cherish the memory for many many years to come. When our line shall be perpetuated, his name will shine with re-doubled glory and I am confident that our descendants will continue the same relations between themselves from generation to generation.

You are familiar with the celebrated phrase 'I went, I saw and I conquered' To-night with your permission I propose a varient of the same. 'I came, I saw and I was conquered' by the love and affection of our genial host. I have no mind to call blushes on his face by enumerating all the qualities of head and heart he possesses, but I must say that his kindly nature, his genial temperament, his personal charm of manners, his sumptuous hospitality have won the hearts of us all and the cordial and warm welcome he accorded to us has made us forget the long distance of more than a thousand miles.'



THE LAXMI NARAYAN TEMPLE DHARAMPUR.

APPENDIX B.

DHARAMPUR PALACE.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

DHARAMPUR, *May* 4

At the opening ceremony of the Vijaya Rajmahal, the Maharaja Saheb of Kashmir said

"His Highness Maharana Shri Vijayadevji Rana Sahib has simply overwhelmed me by being too complimentary, and I do not know how to thank him for the kind thoughts he has given expression to in his able address I have been very deeply touched by the way in which he has referred to me and I feel highly honoured by being asked to perform the ceremony I feel very great pleasure to be here this morning with members of my family, the more so as my valued and honoured friend His Highness Nawab Mahakhan Sir Taley Mahomed Khan Nawab of Palanpur, is with me Since I have come to Dharampur one thing that has impressed me most and which has given me the greatest gratification, is the complete identity of the interests of the rulers and the ruled There are indications and visible signs of this spirit on all sides Among many other measures the well equipped charitable dispensary in the city and the provision of free education to all even in the high schools in the town, bear eloquent testimony to the great and keen interest evinced by His Highness in the advancement of his subjects

"The Maharana Sahib has traced the history of Jammu and Kashmir State in full detail in happy words, which I deeply appreciate But I would not follow his example as it would be an act of superrogation for me to recount what has been done by the rulers for the Dharampur State When His Highness wrote to me at Jammu about performing the ceremony I willingly consented, not that there was anything special about me as the Maharana now mentions but that I could not refuse the request coming as it did from him The structure is not yet complete I hope it will rear up very soon to be a magnificent and superb one, which will add considerably to the beauty of the city I pray that God may bless the Maharana Sahib with happiness and

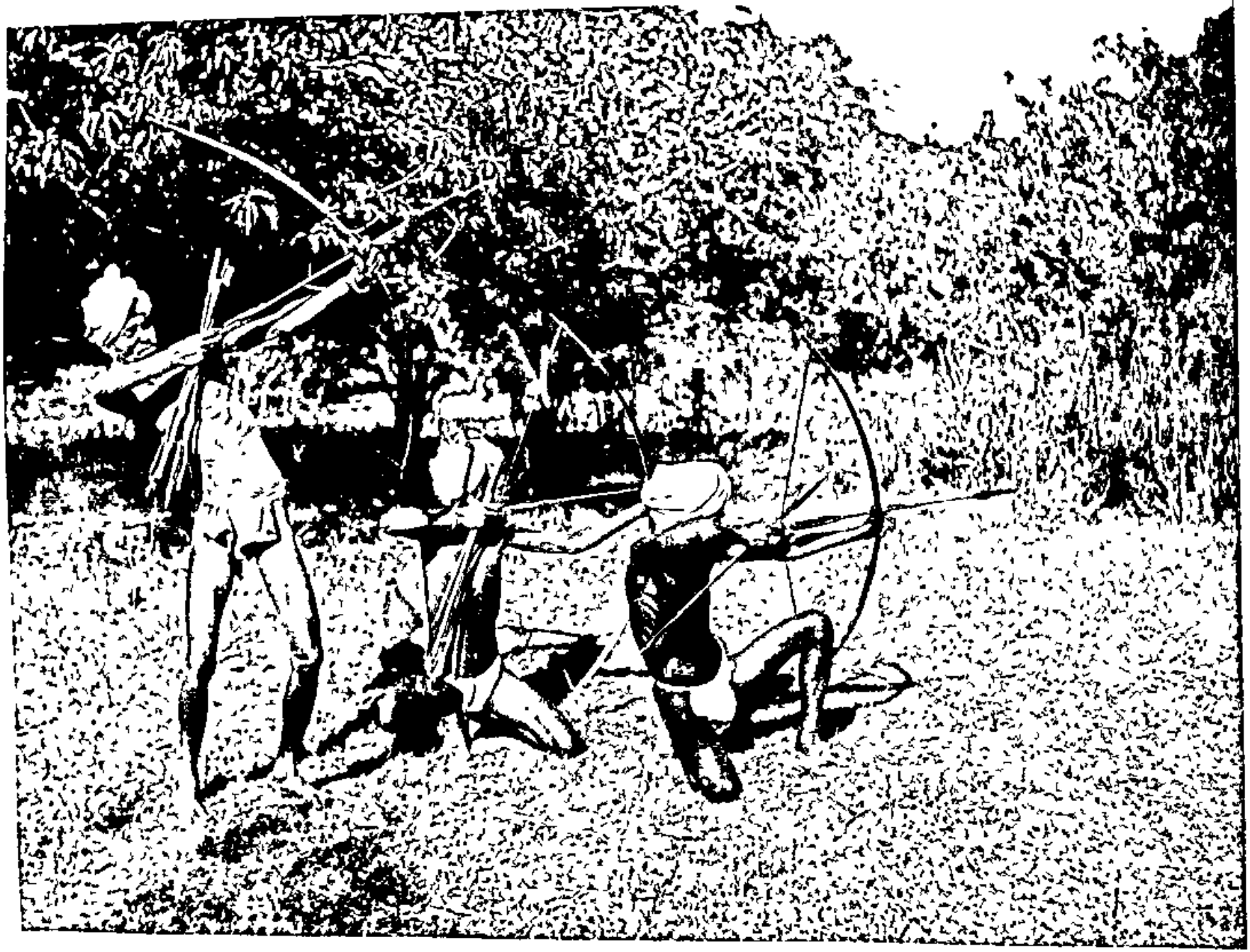
prosperity in this new residence It gives me the greatest pleasure in declaring the Vijaya Rajmahal open

A Farewell Address

On Thursday evening at a large gathering in a shamiana from the Citizens of Dharampur a State address was presented in a silver casket to His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir

In reply His Highness said I have to thank you for the cordial greetings and the warm reception you have given me on behalf of the public of Dharampur State The expression of beaming delight which I see illumining your eager faces is no mere pose adopted for the moment It is as I read it rather an index however inadequate it may be of the intensity and sincerity of the feelings of regard and respect you have come to entertain towards us as guests of your noble ruler with whom you are I am happy to note one in weal and woe I am glad to say that you have left no stone unturned to make our stay as pleasant and comfortable as it could possibly be and you have vied with each other to convince us if any proof were needed how very loyal and devoted you are towards your ruler As I observed at another place the complete identity of interests of the ruler and the ruled is remarkable—and why it should be otherwise? If happiness and contentment of the people are the key notes of the Maharana's rule you repay his solicitude by steadfast loyalty and devotion If the Maharana Sahib is to be congratulated in having such loving and law abiding subjects you are no less deserving of felicitation in having such a ruler

You have referred in handsome terms in the beautiful address to what little I have been doing for my subjects in distant Kashmir and I am very proud that my subjects are not to be left in the lurch in the race for progress and advancement The mainspring of my action as well as of your ruler who has now been united to us in the tie of relationship is the conviction based on the teaching of our Sanatan religion that the rulers are mere custodians of the people committed to their charge by the Providence I very much appreciate your kind thoughts and thank you once more for the congratulations and felicitations you have offered on the successful conclusions of the alliance by marriage of Dharampur and Kashmir In conclusion I wish to announce that I have placed a sum of Rs 20 000 at the disposal of the Dharampur Durbar to be utilized by them in such manner as they think best for the promotion of education amongst Dharampur people in honour of my visit and as a token of my sympathy with the cause of education in general



RANI PARAJ ARCHERS



MAHARANA SAHEB WITH HIS SHIKARIES AND BAG OF TWO TIGERS

APPENDIX C

THE VRAJLAL HOSPITAL.

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Vrajlal Hospital, built in commemoration of his faithful Vazir, Maharana Vijayadevji in requesting Colonel Carter to perform the opening ceremony said

"I thank you very much for kindly accepting my invitation to come here to perform the opening ceremony of the Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody Charitable Hospital My thanks are the deeper because I realize, the sacrifice of personal and professional convenience which your coming here involves and the discomfort of the hot weather which you have so bravely faced Your friendship with me dates from a time long anterior to my becoming the Ruler of the Dharampur State and it is on this long-established friendship and your sincere and kind regard for the late Vazir Saheb that I have presumed in inviting you here You are one of the most eminent medical men in Bombay and I and my people are fortunate that the new Hospital, which you are asked to open to day, will be given its initial start by one who is an ornament to his profession and takes a keen interest in the medical welfare of this country

I regret that Mrs Carter has been unable to be present on this occasion owing to indifferent health It would have given us great pleasure if she had been able to come as she has always shared your beneficence We miss her presence very much for her womanly sympathy would have given a warm glow to the proceedings of this morning

Colonel Carter, Dharampur is comparatively a small State and scope for medical relief in the State is limited owing to the inveterate conservatism of its population, which mainly consists of the Kaliparaj people But I have been trying my best to teach them the benefits of modern medical science and to wean them from their old immemorial practice of relying on charms, amulets and incantations for curing sickness You will be glad to know that since my accession to the Gadi, owing to the efforts of my administration, more people have begun to take relief not only in the existing hospital and dispensaries in the town of Dharampur, but also in the District dispensaries which my administration has provided and which take medical relief,

so to say, to the very huts of the people in their villages and in the forests and jungles of the State Here I may mention that Medical Aid in all forms is given free to the public Even surrounding villages under different jurisdictions have so often sought Medical Aid from this State and it is always given freely and without restraint No difference is being observed in administering medical aid to the public of Dharampur and to outside jurisdiction persons The District Dispensaries also are under charge of well qualified people

My administration has also recognized the special needs of the female population of the State and is therefore constructing a hospital for women close to the Hospital which will be opened to day The building is nearly completed and the hospital will be opened for public use in a short time It will be under the charge of a qualified Lady Doctor and will be equipped and maintained on the same scale as the present Hospital It may also be mentioned in passing that it is thought proper that the dispensary also should, under the new circumstances be located near the two Hospitals A more commodious building with all the modern requirements is therefore under construction and is expected to be ready for use, early next year This dispensary is being built in every respect according to your valuable suggestions which were so kindly made by you before its work was taken up in hand

In these days the large class of people who believe in the virtues of Ayurvedic medicine cannot be neglected In my opinion the administration will fail in its duty if facilities for the only relief in which they believe are not provided An Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya has therefore been recently opened in the town of Dharampur with a competent Indian Vaidya in charge and I find from the statistics that the institution is popular with a large class of people and is taken full advantage of by them

But in my opinion there is always room for expansion of medical relief and if further facilities are provided people will be induced to take advantage of them So when there was a general desire to raise a memorial to my late Vazir Mr Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody, the suggestion to open a new Hospital in his name was readily accepted by the subscribers and you see now before you the building which has been raised by the subscription of the people supplemented by a handsome contribution from the State

The memorial which has been thus raised to the memory of my late Vazir has been admitted on all hands to be well deserved The late Mr



THE RADHA KRISHNA TEMPLE, DHARAMPUR

Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody served me and my State for well nigh 30 years most loyally and with the single purpose of promoting the interests of my State, my family and my people He first entered the Dharampur service in 1895 A D as my Tutor when I was a student in the Raj Kumar College It would not be right for me to extol his services as tutor and companion for it might appear like singing my own praises He never failed to instil in me all those virtues which he thought I ought to possess not only as a future Ruler of an Indian State but as a man in the society of other men and he did so in such a gentle unobtrusive and friendly manner that within a short time of his being my tutor we became friends I am proud to say that this friendship was so deep rooted that for 30 years it stood firm in sickness and sorrow, during my stay in Bombay in straitened circumstances as well as in happier times and prosperous circumstances When I left College and was Revenue Commissioner of the State in 1904 1905 and 1906 he worked with me jointly I was then able to realize not only his administrative ability but his true concern for the welfare of the ryot I must lightly pass over the time between 1908 and 1921 which I had to pass in Bombay though that was the time when his great disinterestedness was manifested in various ways Though I was in low circumstances he stuck to my fortunes served me as well as if not better than before shared all my sorrows and difficulties nursed me in my illness

I ought to refer here to the especial devotion and tenderness with which he attended me when I was struck down by typhoid as you are well aware and whatever happiness and cheerfulness there was in my house in those days was in a great measure due to him When better times came he still remained the same faithful loyal and devoted servant friend and companion At this moment my heart ardently desires to fly to him and would like to have wings the wings as a French Poet says —being quite a beginner in French I may be excused for any mistake therein

Des ailes pour planer sur la mer
Dans la pourpre du matin
Des ailes au dessus de la vie
Des ailes par de la la mort

As my Vazir since my accession to the Gadi he advised me in my administration and I am not exaggerating if I say that whatever improvements in the State and its administration there have been since 1921 have been due to him But as luck would have it he was not destined to see for

himself all these projects realized He died at Marseilles on 7th August 1924 I should not forget, on this occasion, to thank Mr Spencer S Dickson, the British Consul General at Marseilles, the Lord Mayor of Marseilles, Mr Knight of Thos Cook & Son, and Mr Gendre, Manager of Hotel de Noailles, who rendered valuable help to us at that time Only we know what difficulties we had to undergo then and taking into consideration those difficulties, negotiations are going on to buy a suitable plot of land to serve as a Cremation Ground at Marseilles Marseilles being a landing port and an important place, a plot there would be very convenient In a case such as we experienced—May God forbid it—our people may not have to experience the same difficulties as we had to

He was a wise counsellor and loved the State and the people of Dharampur It is pleasant to see that love reciprocated and this hospital will I trust, keep green the memory of one who tried to serve his Master as well as his people and gave satisfaction to both a feat which is rare and which few servants of a State are able to achieve An order for a bust of the late Vazir has been already given It is a gift from my private purse to this Hospital and will be placed there to perpetuate the features of a loyal servant and a wise counsellor

I may mention here that Medical Aid of all kinds is given free to all classes of people in my State It is given free to other than my subjects who may come to seek it and it is a matter of great satisfaction to me that a large number of people outside my State avail of it This Hospital will be no exception and I only wish that the fullest advantage will be taken of it by all those to minister to whose wants it has been brought into existence

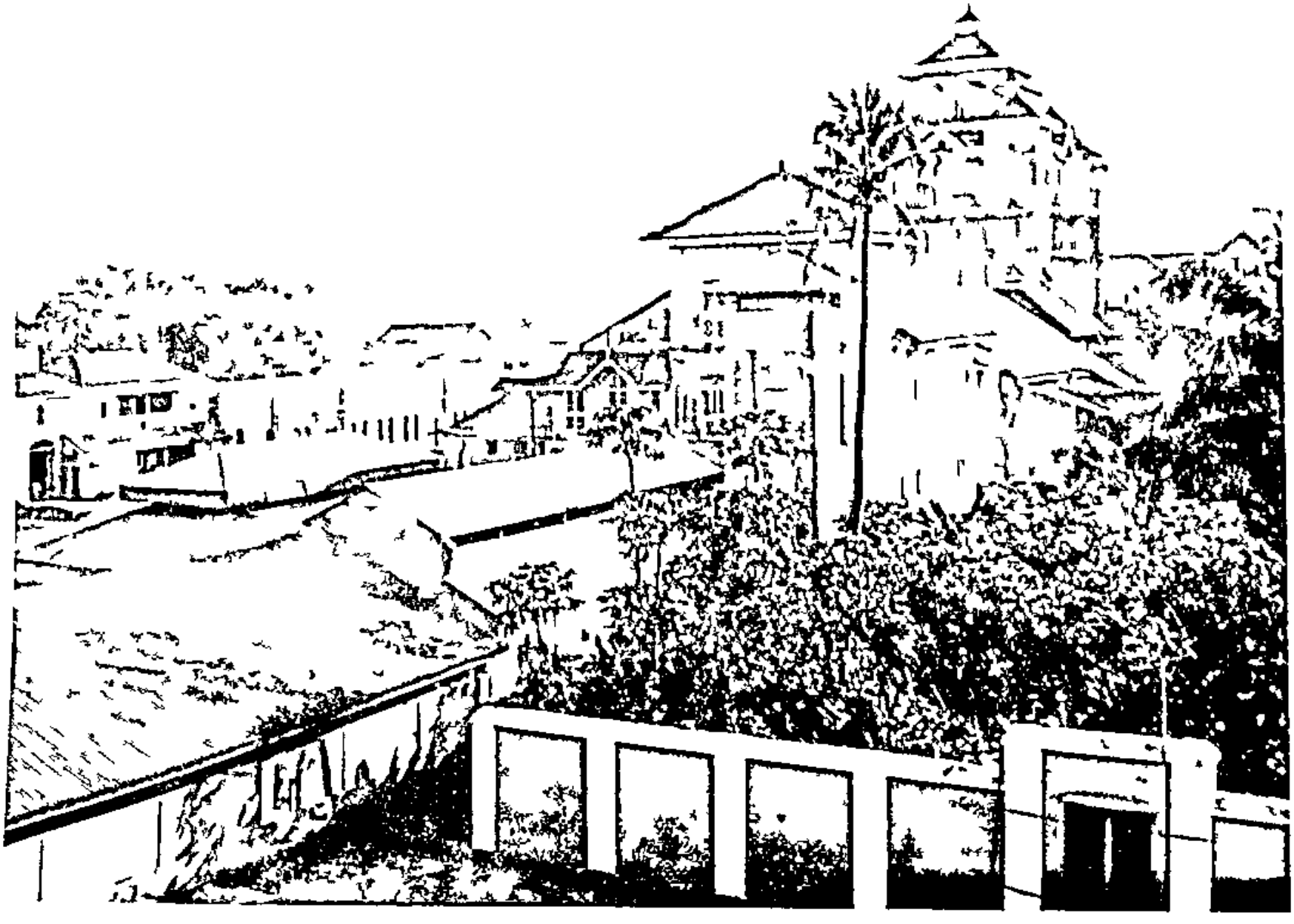
This Hospital has cost altogether Rs 60 000 The land is a free gift from the State, and the construction upto the plinth was effected at State expense which came to Rs 20 000 The donations from the public till now amount to about Rs 30 000

I am glad to announce that Mrs Popatbhai Prabhuram has kindly subscribed rupees three hundred in remembrance of the fortunate cure of her son, Mr Ratelal from serious illness and operation by Col Carter and Col Novis The Committee and I appreciate the kind thought which prompted her to subscribe this amount and thank her for the donation

It is my hope and desire to make of it an institution which in its own small sphere will follow the ways, methods and practices of modern great Hospitals and be of permanent benefit to the people In this connection I may be allowed to express my thanks to you for inspecting the building while it was being constructed and making valuable suggestions from a



THE ROAD UP THE WILSON HILLS



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE TOWN WEST SIDE DHARAMKOT

practical point of view which were calculated to add to its usefulness and general efficiency

Before I conclude, I must express my great satisfaction at the presence of Dr Popatbhai Prabhuram and Dr Mrs Godinho on this occasion They were friends during my stay in Bombay and I am glad to say that they have kept up the same good feelings till now I owe them many kindnesses, which I take this occasion to sincerely acknowledge

Colonel Carter, I have now much pleasure in requesting you in the name of the State and the subscribers to the Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody Memorial Fund to declare the Hospital open, L hopital qui est le fruit de l amour qui engendre l amour en moi meme et en publique "

COL CARTER S SPEECH.

In declaring the Hosiptal open to public, Colonel Carter said

'Your Highness Ladies and Gentlemen

Before proceeding to the actual ceremony of opening this new Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody Charitable Hospital I should like to take the opportunity of saying a few words on this and other cognate subjects First of all Mrs Carter asks me to convey to Your Highness and to all present her very deep regret for not being able to attend at this most interesting ceremony Unfortunately she is too ill to travel at present from Bombay and must defer her visit to Dharampur until next cold weather when we both hope to have the pleasure of seeing this hospital in working order

I appreciate most deeply the kind reference Your Highness has made to me in your speech and can only say how keenly I value the kind thought that prompted Your Highness to place me in the very privileged position that I hold here to-day Years ago before Your Highness had attained your present exalted position as one of the ruling Princes of India Dr Popatbhai Prabhuram and I had the privilege of attending you through the gravest illness of your life The professional relationship that started during those anxious weeks ripened rapidly into a close and sincere friendship that I value, and intend to keep green long after time and parting seas have separated us

From our first meeting I have watched Your Highness career with a keen interest and have long since realized that in you, your subjects have an able leader shrewd in counsel and in private life a sportsman They

are indeed very fortunate in being blessed with a kind and wise ruler, and a beneficent administrator to guide and guard their political destiny

Of all the *many kinds of wise acts peculiar to the destiny of kings and* princes, there is no wiser provision by a ruler for the welfare of his people, than a medical centre such as this, to which all who are in suffering or in sickness may freely come for relief It is a field of good work outside all strains of political bias, whose beneficial activities are beyond all claims of caste or creed Above all it is a work of pure charity in the main utilized by the simple folk and the poor

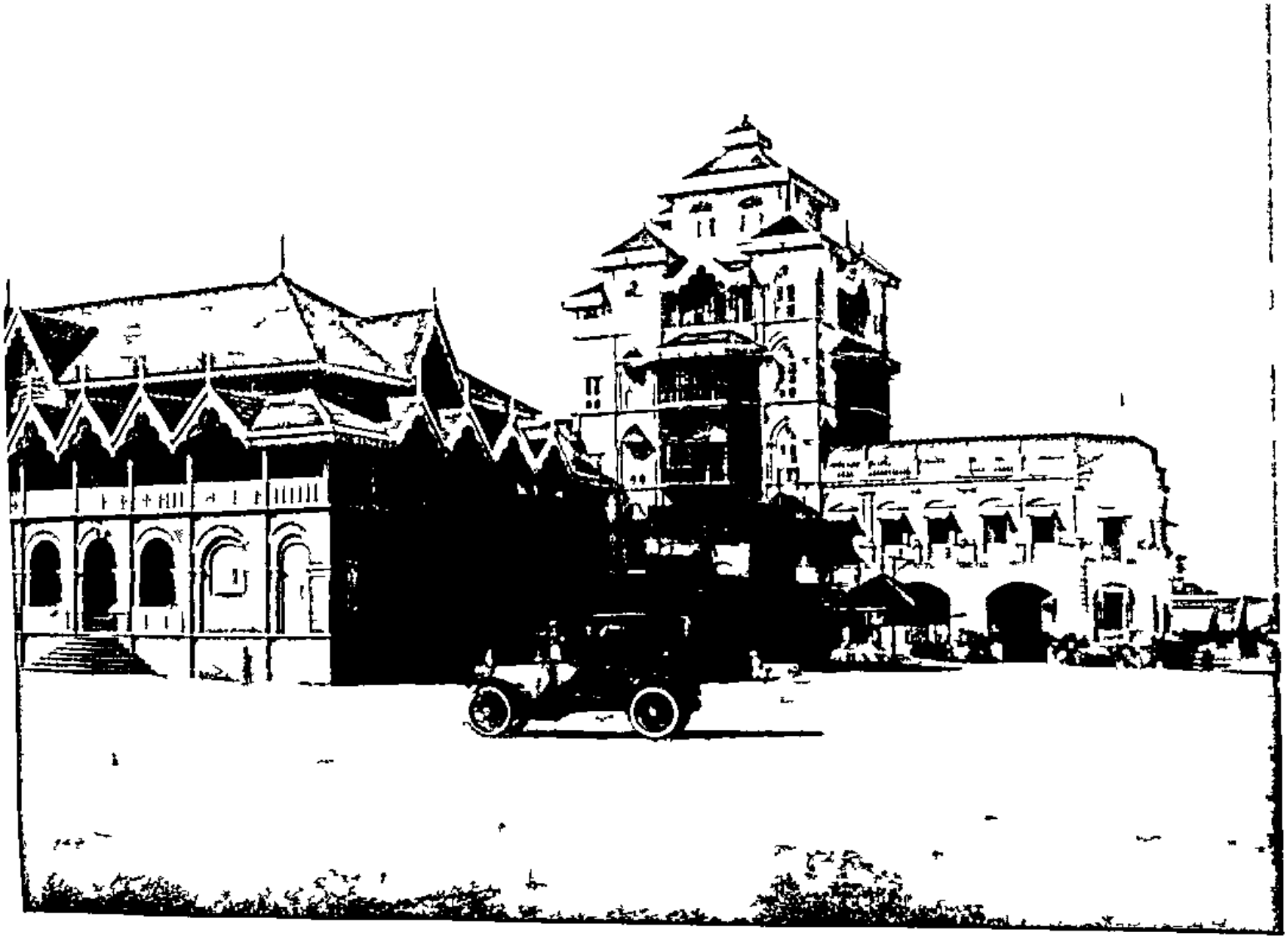
By your shrewd provision of this central State Hospital in Dharampur, you have so co-ordinated the excellent relief work of your outlying Dispensaries, that the medical administration of the State comes abreast of modern requirements Further you provide as far as is possible within the financial powers of your people, a focal point of attraction for the more dangerous and difficult ailments, from which man may suffer not only thereby bringing to you early relief that means life to each patient but to the State *a central point for a correct and early estimation of each condition* of disease which enables the State to safeguard itself in time against the scourge of epidemics From here henceforth the State will check the inroads of endemic disease, that sap the vitality of its population or waste that life, upon which all industrial wealth and prosperity of the State depends

This new Hospital, dealing as it will in the main with the male element of the population will shortly have adjoining it as its necessary adjuncts a dispensary and separate female unit This latter is of the highest importance as it enables the hospital as a whole to also deal in future with those ailments peculiar to women, the correct treatment of which, means so much to an Indian State, as they strike at the root of all prosperity, and the fertility of its *young motherhood*

Your late Vazir, Mr Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody, a most loyal friend to all here to day and a wise counsellor to Your Highness whose long and able service of 29 years in the State of Dharampur has endeared him to its ruler and its people, could have no more graceful and valuable memorial of the life service he has given than this hospital that stands before us

It has been raised to his memory and equipped in his honour, and at the wish of His Highness the Maharaja has been named after him

We see before us a building destined to scatter untold blessings on this generation, a home of healing that will bring each advance in the art of



THE MOHANVILAS PALACE DHARAMPUR

modern medicine to the homes of future generations yet unborn It is a centre that will expand with the advancing prosperity of the State, intimately bound up as it is henceforth with the health and welfare of all who live in and around Dharampur

Time will sweep away all we who stand here to-day at its opening ceremony, but in the distant of time the name of His Highness the Maharaja and of Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody, his Vazir, will stand recorded for future to bless the sick and suffering poor who shall benefit from the surgical and medical skill and sympathy that henceforth shall radiate from its doors

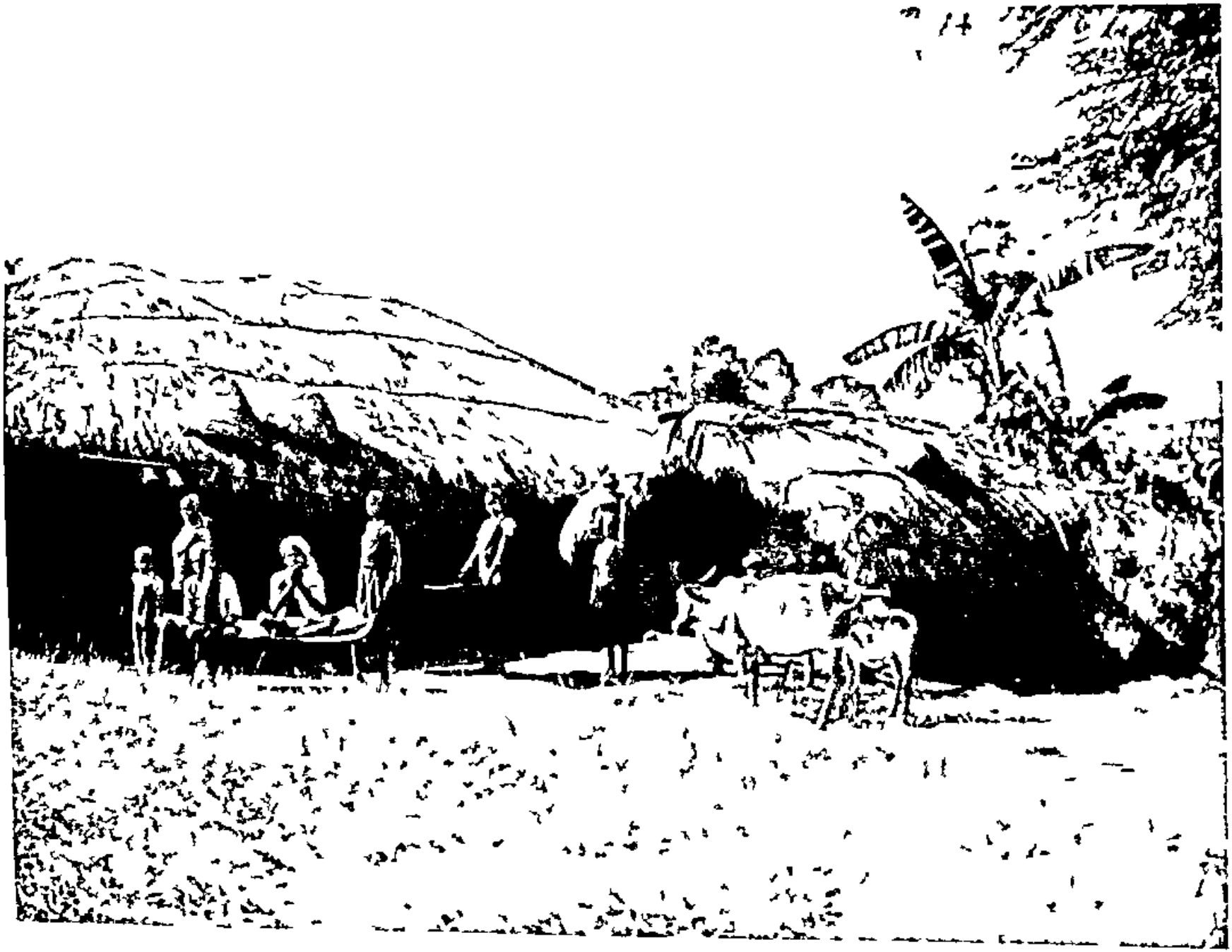
His Highness has in his wisdom presented a bust of the late Vazir, that will stand in a position of honour within the building It will serve as an example to all future loyal servants of the State and act as an incentive to the continued generosity of all who can afford to support this great field of work

The future of this Hospital to me seems assured It is found on land granted by the State raised on a plinth built at State expense It is equipped at the expense of Her Highness the Maharani Saheb as an attending memorial of her sympathy towards this wise foundation Its walls are a practical testimony to the generosity of a large public subscription list All it needs is to set the machinery in motion and it should henceforth work for the good of the poor of this State for ever

We have amongst us to-day my professional colleague Dr Popatbhai Prabhuram one of India s most distinguished physicians a life long friend and personal adviser to His Highness also Dr Mrs Godhino whose valuable services to the State are well known to all of us We welcome their presence here to-day as their keen and abiding interest in the medical welfare of the State of Dharampur has been one of the main incentives towards its progress in medical improvements such as seen before us

Before opening the Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody Charitable Hospital may I take the opportunity of wishing its medical staff the fullest success in gaining the confidence of the people Upon their work among the poor of Dharampur will depend the success of the new project Their devotion to duty sympathy and skilled treatment shall determine whether this new medical centre shall redound to the credit of all who have taken part in its building and by fulfilling the purpose of a wise ruler His Highness the present Maharaja shall keep for ever in the memory of the people of Dharampur the name of Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody its late Vazir

I now with Your Highness'permission will open the building in honour of Your Highness' friend, counsellor and loyal servant of the State Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody May God s blessings rest on this building and all that work in it, both now and in the future May it fulfil its destiny in healing the sick and poor of the State of Dharampur, and thereby keep in memory of the good and worthy servant of the State whose name it shall bear henceforth "



VILLAGE LIFE



RANI PARAJ PEOPLE AT HARVEST

APPENDIX D.

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION.

A BRIEF SURVEY.

On the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the new building for the Maharana Shree Mohandevji High School in December 1926 the Educational Superintendent of the State gave a brief survey of the progress of education in the following words —

"In 1857 Maharana Vijayadevji I started a department of education with three primary schools, designed mainly for the benefit of the Kaliparaj ryots There naturally followed a demand for English teaching institutions and in 1877 an Anglo Vernacular School was started That led to the foundation of Shri Narayan Devji Anglo Vernacular School in 1887 Other primary schools were gradually opened in different villages so that, between the years 1887 and 1920, 18 new schools were opened bringing the total number of educational institutions in the State up to 23 primary schools in the villages, 2 vernacular girls' schools, 1 boys school at Dharampur, and a high school The work of consolidation and improvement followed The vernacular classes were separated from the Anglo-Vernacular school and placed under a senior trained teacher, and the girls school at Dharampur was also placed in charge of a trained lady teacher In 1905 Mr G C Shah B A, was appointed as headmaster of Shri Narayan Devji Anglo Vernacular School and the school began to teach up to Standard VI Standard VII was added to it in the following year and more qualified teachers were engaged with the result that in 1909 Shri Narayan Devji Anglo Vernacular School was raised to the status of a high school, under the name of Shri Mohan Devji High School, and was recognised by the Bombay University as an institution qualified to send up students for the Matriculation Examination In 1915 an Urdu Girls School was started for Mahomedan girls In the following year there was an interesting development, which may appropriately be narrated here, inasmuch as a first aid class of the St John Ambulance centre was opened Lectures are given by the House-Surgeon on first aid and the Chief Medical Officer holds the annual examination Certificates are issued from Simla to those boys who pass the examination In 1925, 19 boys appeared for the examination out of whom 15 were successful and in 1926 12 boys were successful out of 15

When the present Maharana Saheb was installed on the Gadi in 1921, the number of primary schools for boys in the State was 23 Besides the primary schools there were the High School, the Urdu Girls' School and another Girls' School in the town The number of pupils was 1,198 distributed as follows —

130—High School
902—Primary Schools for boys
118—Girls' School
48—Urdu Girls' School

As the need for vocational training gradually became apparent, a demonstration class was opened at Nanivahial in 1925 to give practical training in agriculture to Kaliparaj boys Agricultural classes attached to various village schools are doing good work under a qualified Inspector specially engaged for the purpose, and a carpentry class opened at the Rumla village school has proved very popular with the boys

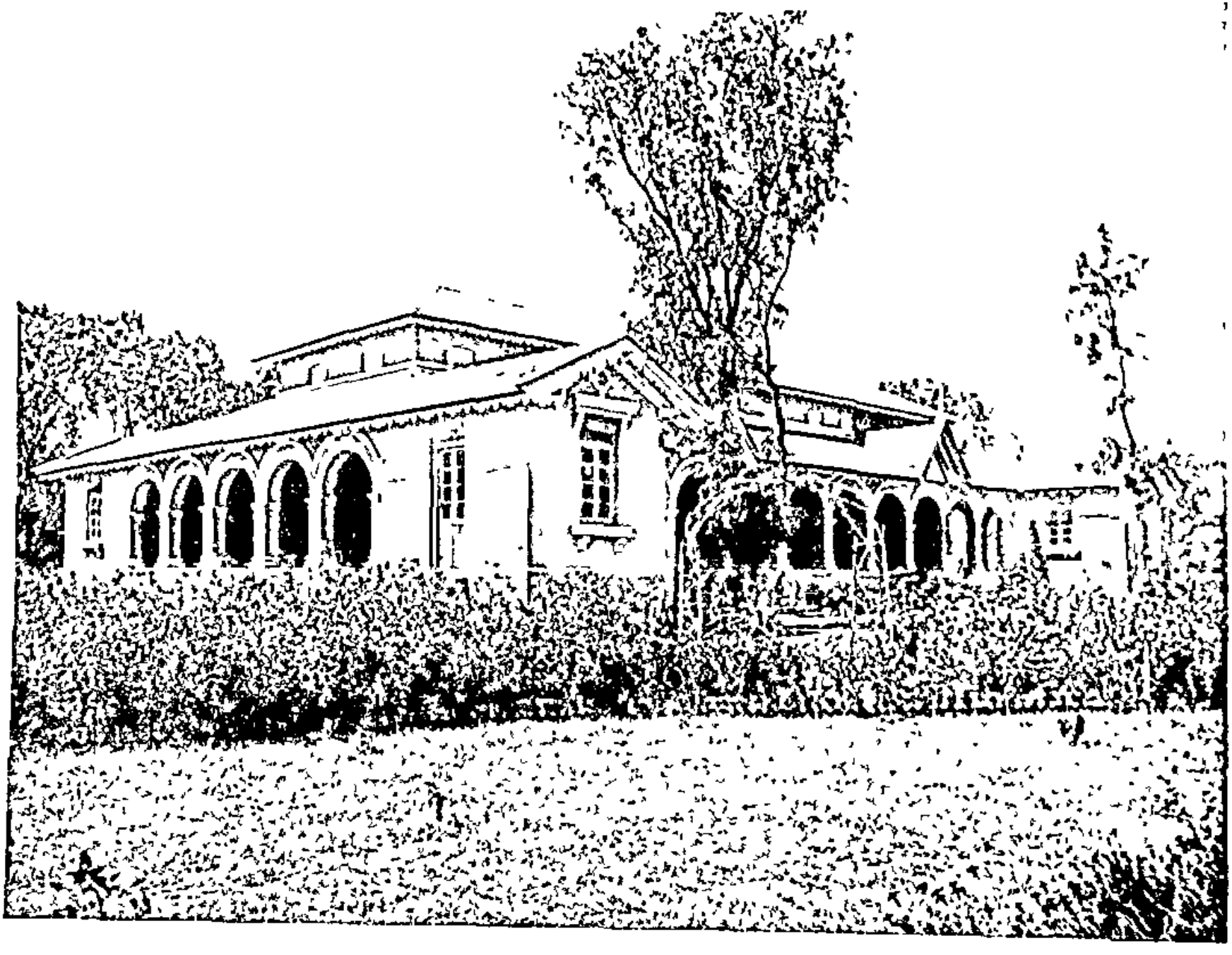
The number of schools has now gone up to 28 The number of boys attending the primary schools has increased from 902 in 1921 to 1,397 in 1926 27 The number of pupils attending the High School has risen from 130 to 178 The number of students in the Girls' School has now risen from 118 to 189 The Urdu Girls' School shows a slight decrease in numbers from 48 to 40 In considering the statistics which have just been cited and those for examination results which will presently be given, it must be remembered that, out of a population of 95 000 in the State, 90 per cent belong to the Kaliparaj or backward classes, only 10 per cent are Ujahats It is obvious that the attempts to diffuse education in Dharampur cannot be appreciated unless that cardinal factor in the position is borne in mind

The examination results of the various schools in the State in 1926 27 were as under —

	No examined	No passed	Percentage
Town Schools .	455	286	63
Village Schools .	437	304	69

In public examinations also the results were creditable The High School sent up 12 boys for the School Leaving Examination last year, of which 7 passed 4 girls and 4 boys appeared for the last Vernacular Final Examination and all passed

The physical training of boys and girls is well attended to There is a gymnasium attached to the High School where boys in the High School and the



THE JUBILEE CHARITABLE DISPENSARY, DHARAMPUR

Town Vernacular School are trained in gymnastic exercises and drill is taught to all pupils by a drill teacher specially engaged for the purpose Cricket and football are very popular with the boys and, in order to develop in them a love for all manly games, public sports gatherings are occasionally held at which prizes are given by the State Since the last two or three years medical inspection of the boys and girls in all the schools in Dharampur has been introduced and the good effect of this will be apparent in course of time

The cost of secondary education in the High School works out at Rs 79-11 per pupil, while that in the girls' school works up to Rs 13-12 per pupil and the Urdu Girls' School Rs 17-9 per head The total cost of education in the State has risen from Rs 29,421 in 1921-22 to Rs 48,734 in 1926-27, an increase of 66 per cent, while the gross revenue of the State has barely increased 13 per cent This is itself an eloquent testimony to the Shrimant Maharaja Saheb's keen desire to spread education amongst his ryots

With these remarks I beg leave to resume my seat "

THE MAHARANA'S SPEECH

In requesting Mr Hartshorne, the Collector of Surat, to lay the foundation stone of the new High School, the Maharana said

"Mr Hartshorne, Ladies AND Gentlemen,

From the report which has been just read to you by the Superintendent of Education tracing the history of the growth of education in this State, it will be apparent to you that Dharampur has not lagged behind other States in providing facilities for elementary and secondary education to her people Not only has the State been anxious to provide those facilities within its borders, but it has liberally given scholarships to deserving young men that they may prosecute their studies elsewhere in order to become useful citizens of the State The late Headmaster, Mr Chonker, the present Headmaster, the first assistant and several other members of the High School staff are the happy products of that policy The State at present spends about Rs 200 per mensem in scholarships for students at several centres of education such as the Grant Medical College, Bombay, and the Tata Arts Schools at Navsari

But we are not to-day to discuss the educational policy of the State so much as to take part in a function illustrative of that policy Some surprise may be expressed at the fact that a new building for the Shree Mohandevji High School is already necessary, seeing that it was only in 1922 that the school was moved to its present building The explanation is that the policy

of giving free education and of supplying books and other school outfit to all Kaliparaj boys and girls and even to Ujaliat boys and girls, if poor, has led to a considerable increase in the number of pupils and to crowding in the school There are at present 178 students on the roll of this school of whom one fifth are outsiders who have been attracted here by the offer of free education The school has therefore outgrown its building and, as it was not possible easily to extend it owing to a number of houses having sprung up near it, I determined that a new building was essential

Being a firm believer in the old maxim of a healthy mind in a healthy body, and a strong advocate of physical exercise, I have selected this site which provides ample room for the building and, when the ground has been levelled and cleared, for playgrounds and gymnasium The building, which will occupy an area of 212,128 sq feet, will contain, in addition to class rooms, a spacious central hall which will be used for prize givings and other functions, a science laboratory and lecture hall a library and a teachers common room and offices The building has been designed by Mr Ditchburn of the well known Bombay firm, Messrs W A Chambers & Co Mr Ditchburn is an enthusiastic admirer of Indian art and the school which he has designed will reflect the best qualities and features of Indian architecture suitable to a school building The cost of this scheme will be about Rs 1,25 000 which considering the moderate resources of the State, is a clear index to our educational ambition I hope that this High School will be the first of many noble buildings in this healthy locality, for I have in contemplation a town planning scheme involving a new road on which the school building will be situated

Let me now thank you for your great kindness in coming here from Surat and for the interest you have displayed in this event I feel that it is particularly kind of Mrs Hartshorne to have honoured me in this way and I hope that she will take away nothing but pleasant recollections of my State You, Sir, have by your visit exhibited a spirit of sympathetic interest which I greatly value and which affords a fresh example of the cordial relationship existing between British India and Dharampur I can assure you that your advice and assistance are of the utmost service to me You have behind you the traditions of Eton and one of the greatest Oxford colleges and I take it as no small compliment that you who are so favourably placed by sharing the inheritance of those great educational traditions, should be amongst us to-day I feel, therefore I could not have done better than ask you, as I now do to perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new building for the Maharana Shree Mohandevji High School I trust that, God willing, this school will form not only a land mark in the history of education in this



SIR ANOOPCHAND JAGJIVAN MODY, DEWAN OF THE STATE

State but a centre of good and sound education attracting many boys and girls who will benefit themselves and the State which is always ready to help them

THE POLITICAL AGENT'S SPEECH

Mr Hartshorne in addressing the assembly, said

Raja Saheb Ladies and Gentlemen

I am extremely proud of the privilege which has so kindly been accorded to me of laying the foundation stone of the Mohandevji High School The ceremony which has just been performed marks a definite stage in the advance of education in the Dharampur State regarding which the Superintendent of Education has given us some very interesting information On an occasion of this sort it is profitable for those concerned with the welfare of the State's subjects to review the results which have been achieved in the time that lies behind them and to consider the progress that can be expected in the time to come According to the belief of the modern times education is not only a boon for the privileged few but is also a necessity for everybody The Rulers of Dharampur State have fully accepted this belief and have shown themselves fully alive to the responsibility which they bear to their subjects in caring for their education This is evident not only from the happy augury of future expansion and progress of which the laying of the foundation stone is the concrete symbol but also from the figures of the actual past results outlined in the superintendent's interesting survey We are to-day specially concerned with the progress made in the education during the time of the present Raja Saheb since it is to him that the credit belongs of the wise and liberal scheme of a new High School to be built in salubrious surroundings and provided with ample space for playing grounds and this is the scheme which has to-day been inaugurated When the Raja Saheb came to the Gadi in 1921 we see that the number of pupils in the High and elementary schools of the State was 1 198 By the year 1926 27 the number has grown to 1 804 The High School which had 130 pupils in the year 1921 has increased to 178 that is by 37 per cent by the year 1926 27 so that as the Raja Saheb has told us has outgrown its present building This is in itself a strong proof of the care and encouragement given to Secondary Education under the Raja Saheb's enlightened administration And the fact that several of the teaching staff as well as other administrative officers at present working in the State have received encouragement in their education at the hands of the Raja Saheb shows that the enlightened and liberal policy that has been followed in

awarding scholarships and spending a considerable part of the State revenue in education has clearly borne useful fruits in a tangible form Not only has secondary education flourished under the Raja Saheb's encouragement but what is equally important, the primary schools and their scholars have also shown a large and satisfactory increase

It is a matter of peculiar difficulty in a State consisting, as we have been told, of 90 per cent of backward Kaliparaj population, to induce the ignorant people to get their children educated and thus to improve the lot of the coming generations, and the fact that such substantial progress is being shown in the face of this difficulty, must be a matter of extreme gratification to the Raja Saheb and to the officers of the State who are assisting his noble efforts for the welfare of his people The Raja Saheb has been pleased to observe that I have myself had the advantage of studying at one of the oldest and best schools in England I should like to tell you, the chief impression which I received as a humble pupil of that school There is nothing new or uncommon in it But the most valuable truths are generally those which are old and of common experience The teaching which impressed me as most valuable was not the mere book learning with the ability to pass examinations which that connotes but it was the spirit of reverence for the traditions of the past of obedience to our rulers or preceptors, and above all, of adherence to duty and religion I trust that these simple but high principles will always be followed in this School especially as it will owe its existence to a ruler of such high character as Shrimant Maharana Vijayadevji Saheb, who is, if I may presume to say so in the capacity of a personal friend, a living embodiment of those principles I will add by thanking the Raja Saheb most heartily on behalf of my wife and myself for the honour that he has done to us in asking us to be present on this auspicious occasion May his enlightened rule long flourish and may the Shree Mohandevji High School have a long and prosperous existence for the welfare of his subjects ''

APPENDIX E.

H. E. SIR LESLIE WILSON AT DHARAMPUR.

January 1928.

IMPRESSIONS OF A JOURNALIST

At the end of January 1928, His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson, Governor of Bombay, paid a two-days visit to Dharampur and the occasion was rendered particularly memorable because this was the first visit of the Governor of Bombay to the State within living memory The Raja Saheb had invited a number of guests from Bombay and elsewhere to meet His Excellency and the provision of accommodation for the large number of European and Indian guests would have strained the resources of almost any State The Editor of *The Times of India* who was present on that occasion has written the following impressions of what he saw during those two days

' *The long stretch of road from Bulsar to the border of Dharampur* State fills the new comer with gloomy apprehensions for the road does no credit to the Local District Board Once inside the State those apprehensions are immediately dispelled and anyone who draws comparisons from such obvious features of administration as roads must in this case acknowledge that the advantage is to a very marked degree in favour of Dharampur

' One could not be long in the State without appreciating the very efficient control exercised in every respect by the Raja Saheb The programme of the visit had been drawn up with the great care and every detail appeared to have been thoughtfully considered and in view of the crowded nature of the time table for those two days, this indicates great efficiency in staff work as well as in the planning of the whole scheme by the Raja Saheb Nothing was more remarkable than the way in which the whole party of guests and State officials was transported to the Wilson Hills ' and then down again to the Shikar Camp which was not only a model of its kind but was noticeable for its picturesqueness and comfort

" These details of the visit seem to reflect the general administration of the State The capital is tidy and well kept and has an air of general

prosperity and of being thoroughly alive, which cannot fail favourably to impress the visitor The various institutions, medical and educational, in which the Raja Saheb is taking an intense interest, are well designed and appear to be wholly adequate to the needs of the State One cannot visit this go ahead State without wondering what changes will be effected if and when the railway from Bulsar to Dharampur, possibly connecting up with Nasik, is constructed The inference from present conditions is that, with greater opportunities of bringing the State into closer contact with the outside world and of developing the natural resources of the State, the Raja Saheb will be able very greatly to increase the welfare and prosperity of his people

"To what extent it is possible to raise the Kaliparaj people in the scale of civilisation is beyond the scope of my speculation but it seems perfectly clear that the Raja Saheb means to leave no stone unturned whereby he may benefit these people His anxiety to accomplish this is, I think the natural outcome of the good results which he has already been able to obtain during the few years of his enlightened and energetic rule"

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION AT DHARAMPUR

His Excellency Sir Leslie Wilson arrived at Dharampur on 31st of January, 1928, and was given a rousing reception both by the Raja Saheb and the people of the State and the great enthusiasm prevailed throughout the capital which was profusely decorated with triumphant arches of artistic style with suitable mottoes being erected at central places

The first function in the programme was the presentation of an address of welcome by the residents who took the opportunity bearing testimony to the great blessings they enjoyed in the regime of the present Ruler, of acknowledging their deep gratitude to him for his ear est efforts to ameliorate their moral and material condition

THE ADDRESS

The address ran as follows .—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY LT-COL. THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR LESLIE ORME WILSON, PC, GCIE, CMG DSO,
GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY

May it please Your Excellency,

As subjects of Dharampur State, we respectfully ask permission to offer a most cordial welcome to Your Excellency This is the first visit of a

Governor of Bombay to Dharampur within living memory, and our pleasure on this occasion is all the greater because the representative of the King-Emperor is so illustrious and well beloved a Governor as Your Excellency.

It is our good fortune to live under a Ruler who, since the day of his accession to the Gadi, has worked for the advancement of his people and the progress of his State. The division of the State for administrative purpose into six parts, is one of the most notable reforms in our time. There are within sight of this spot some of the many buildings with which Shrimant Maharana Shri Vijayadevji Bahadur has beautified the State and the great strides in education and the provision of medical relief which have been made, will be disclosed to Your Excellency during your visit The improvement and extension of road communications together with a net-work of telephone lines, the establishment of a banking institution, the total abolition of forced labour, the grant of greater rights over land and trees, the advancement of agriculture by the use of the latest methods favoured by the scientific research, the opening of an Agri-Horticultural establishment and the opening up to us of wider vistas of life by the gift of a Museum are among the benefits lavishly showered on us by the Maharana Saheb He has also projected the building of a sanitorium and given us the free benefit of electrically lighting our streets On the journey here Your Excellency will have perceived that this State suffers from seclusion A Railway line from Bulsar to Dharampur and thence onward in the interior of the State is needed for the convenience of the public and for the development of the forest resources and the trade of the State We are glad to learn that the Government of India have ordered a traffic survey; but it is our hope that Your Excellency's Government will lend its support to the speedy construction of this line which is, we know, greatly desired by the Maharana Saheb

We narrate these facts in the confident expectation that our Maharana Saheb will derive from the visit of Your Excellency fresh encouragement to pursue the line he has marked out for himself As to ourselves, we look upon this visit as a rare and memorable favour graciously bestowed We had looked forward to greeting Lady Wilson as well as Your Excellency and we deeply regret that her health has not permitted her to carry out her original intention Her efforts for the women and children of India have made her name deservedly famous throughout the Presidency, and a visit from her would not only have furnished a stimulus to us in many of those humane undertakings with which she is associated but would have been a source of unalloyed pleasure We pray that her health may be restored and that Your Excellency will be so good as to convey our sentiments to her.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY

EFFICIENCY IN ADMINISTRATION

His Excellency the Governor in reply said —

"Citizens of Dharampur State,

I have no small pleasure in acknowledging your cordial welcome to me on my arrival at Dharampur This is as you say, the first time that the Governor of Bombay has had the pleasure of paying your State a visit for many years past, and that is one of the reasons why I look forward with the greatest interest to seeing something of the State during my brief visit here and to gaining some personal knowledge of its well planned roads extensive and valuable forests, and particularly of its hospitals and other public conveniences which you, as the subjects of the State, enjoy It is of course only to be expected that some degree of advancement in the provision of education sanitation medical relief and other modern comforts and conveniences for its subjects should be found in the Dharampur State which occupies so prominent a place among the States of Second Class rank I am glad to hear from my officers, and from your address, of the comfort that your Raja Saheb has been making for development and advancement in his administration since he came to the Gadi in 1921 It is with special gratification that I learn of the abolition of forced labour in the State, the grant of greater rights over land and trees to the cultivators and of the interest taken by the State in developing its agricultural resources These reforms and these beneficent activities are of particular value in a State which consists to the extent of 90 per cent of its population, of backward people of the Ranipara] classes I am rejoiced to learn that your Raja Saheb has their interests at heart and fully recognises the responsibility which his illustrious race owes towards them as well as towards the more advanced and enlightened minority among his subjects

The project of the construction of a broad gauge feeder line from Bulsar to Dharampur, with the possibility of extension further eastwards into the interior of the State is at present engaging the attention of the Railway authorities and I have every hope that their investigations will lead to the early construction of the line which you and your Raja Saheb desire My Government are prepared to give the most sympathetic consideration to any proposals which the Railway experts may put forward

It is a matter of deep regret to Lady Wilson and to myself that she has been unable to accompany me on this visit, to which I know, she was looking forward with the keenest interest

I again thank you for your cordial welcome and for the appreciation which you have expressed of any efforts which Lady Wilson and I have endeavoured to make in the service of the Presidency, and I should like to assure you again of the great pleasure it has given me to have the opportunity afforded by your Raja Saheb's most kind invitation, of paying a visit to Dharampur and of meeting you all personally."

APPENDIX F.

DHARAMPUR'S PROGRESS

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN

On 31st of January 1928 H E The Governor of Bombay performed the double ceremony of opening the Rasik Kunver Ba Hospital for women and the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary at Dharampur in the presence of a large and influential gathering The introduction of up to date facilities in the State dates from 1887 when a small dispensary on western lines was started In 1887 the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary was opened in a commodious building erected for the purpose and located in the heart of the town, and as the needs of the dispensary increased, a qualified doctor was appointed in charge of it Thereafter the dispensary became very useful and popular but the illiterate Ramparaj population was slow to take advantage of these facilities In 1893 a travelling dispensary was started for medical relief in villages

Leper Asylum

A Leper Asylum named the Moore Leper Asylum which was started in 1897 has been doing excellent work treating patients on the latest method and supplying them with free treatment food and clothing The average daily attendance of 39 6 testifies to the usefulness of this institution The Asylum is situated in a healthy locality on the bank of a river far removed from the populous part of the town In 1914 two village dispensaries were opened under qualified supervision and are doing useful work In 1922 these dispensaries were shifted to more important villages and placed in charge of qualified doctors Another dispensary called the Garden Road Dispensary was opened in the town and is kept open day and night In 1924 special arrangements were made for treating female patients, a Lady Doctor assisted by two competent midwives was appointed and a maternity home was established

The increasing facilities offered by all these institutions made them very popular and a steady growth in the number of patients made it necessary



to have a more commodious building for the Hospital and Dispensary with wards for males and females A memorial of the late Vazir Saheb Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody took the form of a hospital named after him, which was built in 1925 at a cost of Rs 80 000 For the people who preferred to be treated on Ayurvedic lines, a dispensary, the A S Manharkunvarba Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya, was started and placed under a competent Indian physician

Maternity Cases

The growing popularity of all these institutions made the accommodation of the central hospitals too limited for the purposes of female lying in wards for maternity cases in particular and for the dispensary A special hospital for females was therefore built and named A S Rasikkunverba Hospital for Women after the late Maharani of Dharampur It is equipped with 15 beds and modern scientific appliances The building is now ready and awaits the formal opening A separate building for the dispensary is also ready to be opened It will preserve its old name of 'The Jubilee Charitable Dispensary"

Situated on the same premises, therefore, will now be —

(*a*) A special hospital for males called the Vrajlal Jagjivan Mody Charitable Hospital ,

(*b*) A special hospital for females called the A S Rasikkunverba Hospital for Women , and

(*c*) A dispensary for outdoor patients called the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary

Cost of Upkeep

In addition to these, a post mortem room, and an infectious diseases ward and a ward for the relatives of patients endowed as a gift from Her Highness A S Dhanvant Kunverba Saheba, the Maharani Saheb of Jammu and Kashmir, in memory of her maid servant are completed and these will conclude the present programme of medical science and relief The respective figures of cost for the three central buildings are roughly Rs 80 000 for the male hospital , Rs 60 000 for the female hospital , and Rs 50 000 for the dispensary The annual upkeep of the medical department costs approximately Rs 50 000 to the State Medical treatment and attendance are absolutely free throughout the State without distinction of caste or creed and even outsiders get free benefits of these facilities

In requesting His Excellency to perform the ceremony the Raja Saheb said

'Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen

Before I proceed to make a few remarks on the occasion which has called us together let me most heartily thank Your Excellency for having so readily responded to my invitation to come to Dharampur to perform the functions of this morning Your Excellency s solicitude for the people placed by Providence under your care in the Bombay Presidency and your incessant and ceaseless efforts to afford medical relief to all rich and poor in the city and Presidency of Bombay are so well and widely known that it will be superfluous on my part to do more than allude to the scheme of Hospital Relief launched in Bombay in Your Excellency s name to provide more extended and better accommodation in Hospitals Your presence amongst us this morning at great personal inconvenience and discomfort is one more proof of your sympathies for the sick and the suffering wherever they may be

I think that all of us here know how closely Lady Wilson has been associated with Your Excellency in this work I had keenly looked forward to being able to show her what progress we are making according to the best *of our means and opportunity in this State Fate has willed it otherwise* and Lady Wilson is prevented from indisposition from being here That is a misfortune which we all deplore and one which deprives this ceremony of her graceful presence and benediction I can only say now—and I feel sure that all present will echo my hope—that I hope Lady Wilson may be restored to health and may soon be able to pursue her benevolent activities with her customary vigour

The report read by my Chief Medical Officer must have shown to Your Excellency what efforts I have been making in my humble way to afford medical relief to my subjects My European and Eastern Tours soon after I ascended the throne convinced me that no system of medical relief however efficient and well organized it may be can be wholly effective unless it is supplemented by indoor treatment in well conducted hospitals

I, therefore seized the earliest opportunity which presented itself to me for moving in that direction The sad and untimely death of my Vazier the late Vrajlal Jagjivandas Mody evoked profound grief amongst my subjects with whom he had been very popular and they assembled in a public meeting at Dharampur and expressed a strong desire to erect a suitable memorial to his memory and raised a sum of about Rs 30 000 by public subscriptions I suggested that there could not be a more befitting memorial to him than founding a hospital in his name and on their agreeing to do so,

I supplemented their efforts by making a free grant of land for the hospital and making good the deficit of the money required for a good hospital building The Vrajlal Jagjivandas Mody Charitable Hospital was thus constructed at a cost of Rs 80 000

But as observed in the report just now read it was soon found necessary to have a hospital for women and children and I resolved to perpetuate the memory of my late beloved Maharani by building a hospital in her name The Rasik Kunver Ba Saheb Hospital which we have met here to declare open for the use of the public has cost Rs. 50 000 exclusive of the cost of the site on which it has been constructed It will have accommodation for 12 to 15 indoor patients and maternity cases and the various diseases of women and children will be treated here Then as you have heard it was decided to construct a new and commodious building for the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary near the two hospitals The building exclusive of the land on which it is constructed has cost the State Rs 60 000

Besides giving free medical relief to all who care to take advantage of the hospital and the dispensaries which the State provides for my subjects the medical officers in charge of them as well as the Lady Doctor are under the rules of the State required to pay free visits to patients at their homes if required to do so The total number of visits so given during the past year came to 3 012 which gives an average of 8 5 per day My medical officers are also required to report from day to day to me as to the visits so paid and the nature of the diseases which they are called upon to treat at the patients homes Not only that but when the nature of the diseases so requires milk ice fruit provisions etc are supplied free to the patients at the State expense Free boarding and lodging are also sometimes provided to the relatives of Raniparaj patients The expansion of medical relief in this manner and the extra cost incurred by the State in providing necessaries to poor patients have considerably increased the cost of medical relief It was about Rs 28 090 in 1920 21 and is now Rs 43 441 The cost per head of indoor patients comes to Rs 10 per month for provisions and Rs 12 per head for clothing etc The establishment charges for the hospitals per month are not less than Rs 2 953 Though the expenditure is growing I feel that the money could not be spent for a better purpose and I hope you will agree with me

There are two points in the report by my Chief Medical Officer to which I should like with Your Excellency s permission very briefly to call attention The first is that by means of our Leper Asylum the State is playing a humble but I hope useful part in the great Imperial movement for the relief of leprosy

which, under the patronage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, has in the last few years made such remarkable progress. The other point is that, although the lessons of experience learnt in Eastern and Western countries have led me to provide for the accommodation of in-patients in the hospital, ample provision has been made for those who prefer the system of Ayurvedic medicines to that taught in Western countries In a matter of this kind it seems to me that it is unwise to try and force any Indian people to adopt a course of action contrary to their beliefs, traditions and prejudices

May I now request Your Excellency to declare open for the use of the public the new buildings for the Jubilee Charitable Dispensary and the A S Rasikkunver Ba Saheb Hospital, open for women "

GOVERNOR'S COMPLIMENT TO THE RULER

His Excellency the Governor, in declaring open the New Dispensary Building and Hospital, said —

" Maharana Saheb, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I regard it as highly appropriate that the first public act which I am called upon to perform in the Dharampur State should be the Opening of New Dispensary Building and Hospital which your generous sympathy for your subjects has established here Lady Wilson and I have, as you have so kindly remarked, made it one of our special missions during our sojourn in the Bombay Presidency to endeavour to promote the cause of the Hospitals wherever possible and I, therefore, warmly welcome the opportunity of declaring open those two buildings which constitute in themselves a material addition to the Medical resources of the State Lady Wilson has asked me to say that she particularly regrets that she has been unable to attend this ceremony and to open the Hospital for Women, in whose welfare she takes such a deep interest

The three medical institutions, which are so admirably grouped together on this site, represent an expenditure of nearly 2 lakhs of rupees, apart from the value of the sites which the State has contributed The whole of this amount, with the exception of the Rs 30 000 raised by public subscription in memory of the late Vrajlal Jagjivandas Mody, has been provided from the State funds This affords a solid proof of the interest taken under your enlightened administration in the welfare of the sick and suffering people among your subjects Moreover, no one can fail to be struck by the fact that medical advice and attendance, and extra comfort and luxuries for the



THE GOVERNOR OPENS THE DIAMOND JUBILEE DISPENSARY



MRS HARTSHORNE WITH HER BABY

patients for whom these are necessary, are provided entirely free of charge In the enjoyment of such liberal provision for their times of sickness, your subjects may well recall the ancient Hindu maxim which says, being translated into English ·

> "A man should not make his habitation in a place where five things are not found These five things are, a wealthy man, a religious teacher, a Raja, a river and a physician"

If I mistake not, all these five essentials to a wise man's habitation are to be found in full measure in Dharampur

After hearing such a full and interesting account of the progress of medical relief in Dharampur, I do not propose to detain you with any lengthy remarks, but, after congratulating you heartily upon the substantial progress that has been accomplished, and upon the sympathetic and enlightened policy which it indicates, and after wishing you all success in the continued pursuit of the policy for the welfare of your subjects, I shall have now great pleasure in proceeding to the two Buildings and duly declaring them open"

APPENDIX G.

LADY WILSON MUSEUM.

OPENED BY THE GOVERNOR

Sir Leslie Wilson performed another interesting ceremony of declaring open on 31st of January 1928 the Museum which is named after Lady Wilson It is the result of a happy inspiration which came to the Maharana Saheb when as Revenue Commissioner he formed a small collection of the products of the State During his subsequent tours in India and abroad he developed the idea and collected a number of rare and valuable objects for the projected Museum The main object of the Museum is to educate and interest the people of the State and visitors from outside in the best forms taken by art and industry and to create a spirit of emulation and a desire for self improvement For this reason the collections have been made as varied as possible both in character and in origin and no pains have been spared to make them in the initial stages as complete as circumstances will permit The exhibits are for the most part the gift of the Maharana Saheb though the A S Maharani Saheb Baiji Shri Jasvantkunver and various friends interested in the undertaking have generously contributed to the success of the Museum

The Curator of the Museum read a report which stated —

As most of you know the Maharana Saheb has travelled widely and during his travels he gave effect to his long cherished idea of starting a Museum here and began collecting objects of interest which he thought would prove of educative value to his subjects The problem of educating backward people such as the majority of those inhabiting this State is no easy one but it seemed to the Maharana Saheb that if he could rouse the curiosity of his subjects by letting them see the products of other nations industry he would be able both to lay the foundation of education and to create a desirable spirit of emulation It was with this object in view that he determined to form a Museum and in 1926 it was decided that it should be housed in this

Jubilee Hall, which is very conveniently situated for the purpose Local artisans have made the show cases under the supervision of the State Mechanical Engineer, and the Maharana Saheb himself has taken the liveliest interest in the selection and classification of the exhibits At first a committee of four was appointed to manage the Museum, but, as that number was found too many, subsequently one member only, Mr Dongre, was directed to assist the Curator. As I think you will presently agree, much has been done in a short time, but that amount of work could never have been accomplished without the zealous lead of the Maharana Saheb who has contributed the bulk of the exhibits

Other generous donors must in gratitude be mentioned The Maharani Saheb and Princess Jaswant Kunver Baiji Saheb have contributed handsomely The State officials, such as the Revenue and Forest Officers, the Superintendent of Police the Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, the Assistant Medical Officer, the head of the Jamdar Khana, the House Steward, the Superintendent of Press the Drawing Master the Veterinary Surgeon, and others have spared no pains in collecting exhibits to enrich the Museum From outside the State we have received valuable contributions from Mrs D R Clarke, Messrs P G Davies, Murray Bros Harvan Motor House, Sheth Manishanker Amulakh, Messrs Morarji Purshotam, Gunni Ibrahim, Ahmed Mia Bannu Mia, G K Devare Meghwal Jagirdar Karnik, Sheth Framji P Bilimoria, Colombowalla, Messrs R G Chonker, Suleman Hussain, Munshi, Tarachand Popatlal, A W Brown and Prof Patel, I take this opportunity of publicly thanking all these generous donors

The exhibits themselves classified broadly fall under the following heads —China and earthenware, glassware, lacquer work, wood carving and inlaid work, ivory carving, cocoanut carving, plaster casts, gold and silversmiths' work, metal work, models of agricultural implements, birds, animals, and Japanese houses, tapestries, carpets, batic work, basket work, agricultural products, Forest products, curiosities, playing cards, geological specimens, zoological specimens, musical instruments, paintings and photographs, picture post cards, views, costumes and pugries, coins and currency notes, postage stamps and cards, paper, court fee stamps, stamp paper, rubber and old arms

From among these I would like to call your attention to a few articles of special interest In the Chinaware section there are some old vases and pottery including specimens of the famous Cloisonne" work The exquisite bamboo-work of Japan, it is hoped, the people of Dharampur will copy. The fine collection of batic work will no doubt stimulate the ladies of Dharam-

pur to organise such work as cottage industries Basket making as a cottage industry already exists in the State but the specimens from Japan, Ceylo and other places will furnish new models to imitate

In the art section, the Paintings of a local artist, Mr R G and the depiction of Ragas on canvas by Mr Sawant, deserve me delicate work of the ivory carver and the fineness to which that brought are exemplified in two minute carvings The Japanese and I tapestries and needle work are of no mean merit The musical instr section is our pride It contains specimens of all the known musical i ments of India in addition to those of other countries Among the curios I would like to mention two articles, both made by the grandfather of t Maharana Saheb These are two narrow necked bottles in which article of furniture are housed How these got in through the narrow necks is a mystery The secret, it seems, has not been bequeathed to the grandson

My task is finished It remains only for me to express the sincere hope that the Museum will be appreciated by the people for whom it is intended and that it may play a great part in that programme of education which the Maharana Saheb has so much at heart

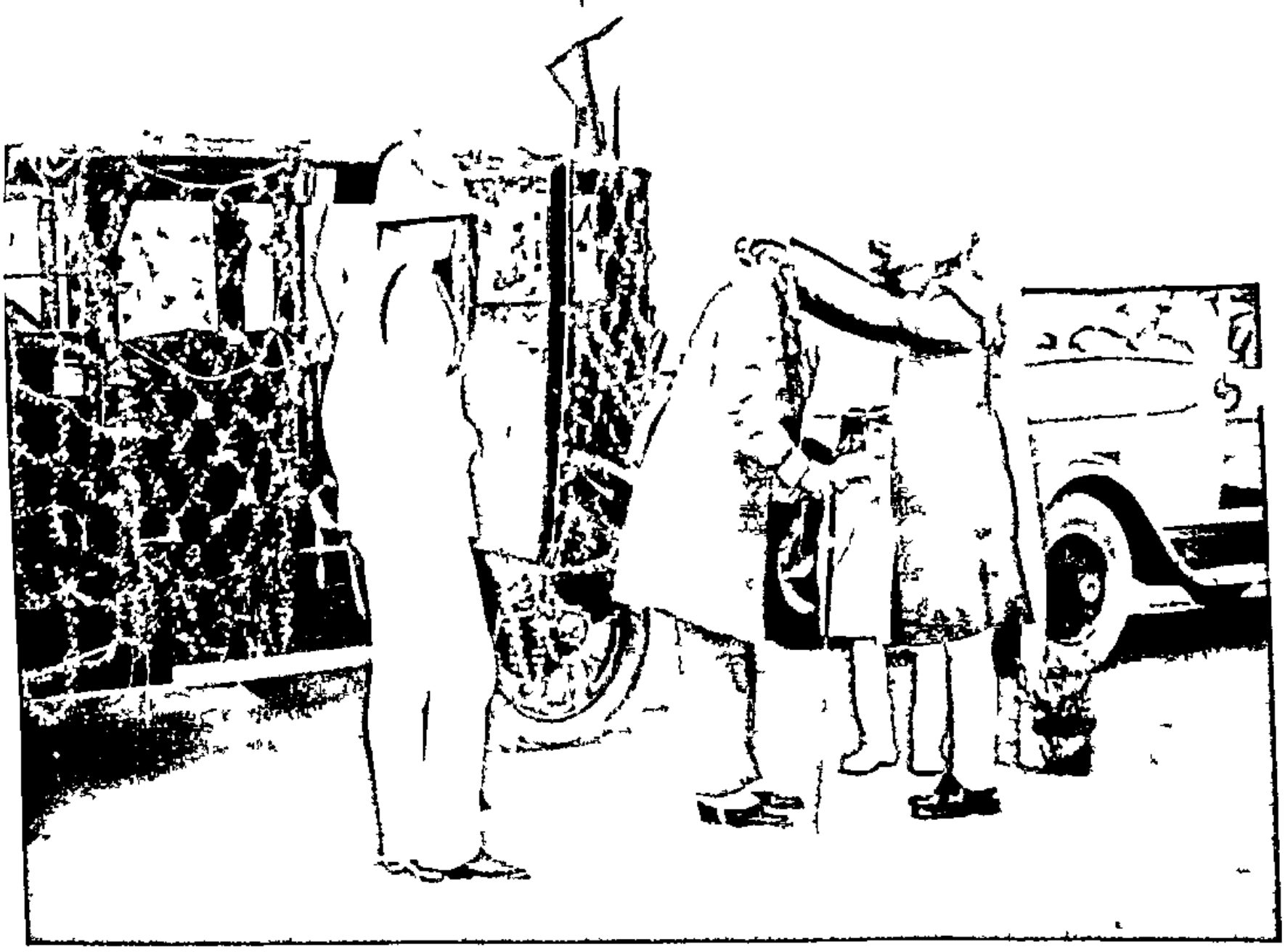
LABOURING FOR HIS PEOPLE

In requesting His Excellency to declare the Museum open Maharana Vijayadevji said —

" Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In asking Your Excellency in the unavoidable absence of Lady Wilson to perform the opening ceremony of this Museum, let me at the outset express my heartfelt gratitude to Her Ladyship for permitting her name to be associated with the Museum which will hereafter be designated the " Lady Wilson Museum '

The formation of this Museum has long been a cherished dream of mine Twenty years ago, when I was serving as a Revenue Commissioner under my revered father His Highness Maharana Mohandevji, I had the idea of forming an economic Museum illustrating the products of this State That idea gradually developed the scope of my dream was enlarged, more particularly by foreign travel and when I ascended the Gadi, its realisation became still more desired At last the dream comes true under the auspicious sponsorship though unfortunately not in the presence, of Lady Wilson



THE MAHARANA SAHEB GARLANDING HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR ON ARRIVAL AT SISSODIA CHAWKY

I am conscious of many imperfections in the Museum, but I look forward to its steady development year by year and I trust that my people will derive from it stimulus and enthusiasm to rival the craftsmanship of foreign nations As you will presently see, foreign exhibits preponderate over local or even Indian exhibits But that is as it should be, seeing that the purpose of the Museum is to demonstrate what is done in foreign countries and to help my subjects to learn and profit by comparison of their own work with what is shown here It seems to me appropriate that the Museum should be housed in the Hall erected to commemorate 25 years of my dear father's rule My early association with him is thus kept green in the memory of my people, for whose benefit both he and I have laboured to the best of our ability

I need say no more You have heard from the Curator of the scope and the contents of the Museum and of the generous aid we have had in forming it I therefore now ask Your Excellency to be so kind as to open the Museum which, by God s grace, is destined some day to be worthy of the honoured name of Lady Wilson that it will bear

A KEEN INTELLECT AND READY PERCEPTION

In declaring the Museum open His Excellency said —

" Maharana Saheb

It is the fashion nowadays for rulers to travel abroad in foreign lands, *with the useful object of enlarging their views and gaining fresh knowledge* and experience which they may apply for the benefit both of themselves and their people It is evident that you Maharana Saheb have amply fulfilled these useful aims in the course of the extensive travels that you have already undertaken since you came to the Gadi in 1921 It is evident from the varied and valuable exhibits contained in this Museum of which the Curator has given us such an interesting summary, that you have not spent your travels in the useless pursuits of enjoyment and luxury but that you have brought your keen intellect and ready perception to bear upon all the places and things which you saw on your way, and have amassed already a curious and comprehensive collection of objects both of arts and of utility, with a view to arousing the artistic sense and stimulating the creative industry of your people I gather that it is due to your own personal efforts that the bulk of the exhibits have been obtained and that their display and arrangement are to be attributed mainly to the same guiding hand I know, however, that you at the same time appreciate to the full the support which you have received from the Maharani Saheb, Princess Jaswant Kunver Baiji Saheb, the State officials and the many gentlemen whose names have been mentioned

by the Curator I wish you every success in the further development of this useful and interesting work which forms, as I am well aware, only a small portion of your many activities on behalf of your State and your people

Before I left Bombay, Lady Wilson particularly asked me to say how much she regretted that she was unable to be present to perform the part which you had so kindly assigned to her, of opening the museum which forms the realization of one of your long cherished dreams, and how much she values your kindness in associating her name with it I shall have great pleasure on her behalf in proceeding now to open the door and to inspect the contents of the museum "

APPENDIX H.

A NEW HILL STATION.

A FAR-SIGHTED AND COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME

THE Maharana of Dharampur has undertaken an ambitious scheme of colonising the Pangarbari Hills, which he has named "Wilson Hills" and which he hopes to turn into an ideal hill station The project is bold, but the Maharana is determined to carry it through, and if he succeeds in the venture, it will be a great memorial to his energy and far-sighted policy

In requesting His Excellency to perform the opening ceremony of the "Wilson Hills," the Maharana said —

"Your Excellency,

I am deeply sensible of the honour you have done me in consenting to inaugurate the scheme of converting this beautiful plateau into a hill station and in allowing me to associate your honoured name with this chain of the Pangarbari Hills which will be henceforth known as the "Wilson Hills" I can only hope that in the beauty of the scenery and in the novelty of the ceremony, for it has been the lot of few Governors in recent times to see the beginning of a new hill station, Your Excellency may find some compensation for the trouble that you have taken in coming here

These hills and their surroundings have always interested me immensely, for they have been to me an unfailing source of good sport when I have been after tiger, panther and wild boar They have, too, no small historic interest, for at Pindwal was situated for a few years in the eighteenth century, the capital of the State But their main significance lies in the fact that they are blessed with a salubrious and invigorating climate and that, together with the adaptability of this site to residential purposes, have stimulated me to do all I can with the limited resources of my State to create a Hill Station In this undertaking I have been greatly encouraged by the kindly sympathy of Your Excellency and by consideration of the circumstance that there is no hill station between Matheran in the South and Mount Abu in the North within reasonable distance of the chief towns in the Western part of Bombay Presidency

The plateau on which we now stand has many advantages It is 2,300 feet above the sea level, an ample water supply is obtainable, it is open to the

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The plateau on which we now stand has many advantages It is 2,300 feet above the sea level, an ample water supply is obtainable, it is open to the

cool breezes from the sea, and it is surrounded by scenery of the greatest beauty On the West we have Bulsar and the sea, on the East the Nasik hills, and both North and South, we have further views of the everlasting hills in all their majesty and grandeur But the first essential of any hill station is that it should be easily accessible and I think that my people have reason to be proud of their pioneer work in constructing the road through dense jungle to the summit Since it was built, another, and shorter, and even more picturesque route to this plateau has been discovered, but it is now too late to make use of it I am aware of the great interest that Your Excellency takes in connecting the several parts of the Presidency by motor roads and I understand that a motor road between Bombay and Bulsar is under consideration If that scheme should be accomplished, the businessman who leaves Bombay in the morning could get here in the afternoon, or, leaving Bombay by the 7 45 train in the morning, he could be here by about three o'clock in the afternoon A railway between Bulsar and Dharampur would serve to make this Hill Station still more easily accessible, and I trust that Your Excellency will lend your influence to further that project which is now under consideration

Many schemes are being matured for providing this Hill Station with those amenities which are essential to the comfort of visitors I look forward to the building of sanitaria, bungalows hotels and clubs And I intend to allot ground for a Gymkhana and a golf course and to extend roads to various points of vantage in the neighbourhood Nobody realises better than I do that there are many difficulties ahead and that progress may often seem disappointingly slow But I shall be encouraged to persevere in the undertaking by the interest which Your Excellency has taken in this project That interest will be commemorated, as I have said, by your gracious permission to associate your name with these hills, a privilege which I highly value You have, Your Excellency, so endeared yourself to all with whom you have come in contact, in all degrees of life in India, that your name has naturally been associated with many buildings and many enterprises But this I think, is the first hill station to which Your Excellency's name has been given and by this means I hope there will be provided a lasting memorial of your wise and successful regime Buildings must in the passing of time decay and be replaced by others, Governors come and go, but the hills are here for ever and I feel sure that none will ever change the name now given to this hill in token of the esteem in which Your Excellency is held To mark the good omens of to-day's inaugural ceremony I have erected here a Chhatri, designed by Mr Ditchburn of Messrs W A Chambers & Co, the well known

architects of Bombay Mr Ditchburn has spared no pains in this work, in which, from the start, he has displayed the greatest interest, rendering me invaluable help by his advice and by coming to satisfy himself as to the progress of the work Its building has been no easy matter, since much of the material had to be brought here before my shikaries and unskilled Ramparaj people had planned and built the present road I must also mention the zeal and earnestness with which the contractor, Mr S Becher of Kharagpur, has worked in face of many difficulties to complete this undertaking Within the Chhatri is a marble bust of Your Excellency, the work of a talented Indian sculptor, Mr B V Talim In the immediate surroundings there will be laid out a park and garden from which one will be able, with pleasurable ease, to contemplate the magnificence of the scenery

This monument recalls me from my dreams of the future I trust that you, Your Excellency, and those who have been so good as to come here to-day have been able to view this scene with the eyes of imagination and to join me in thinking of the pleasant hill station that is to be brought into being. It is my misfortune that Lady Wilson is not here to share in the pleasure of this expedition to the hills I know that we, one and all, regret her absence and the circumstances which have caused it

It now only remains, then, for me to ask Your Excellency to be so kind as to perform the inaugural ceremony of the "Wilson Hills," and to pronounce your benediction on the scheme '

STRENUOUS ENDEAVOURS AND LARGE-MINDED ENTERPRISE

H E the Governor, in congratulating the Maharana on the great enterprise, said —

" It is with feelings of the keenest enjoyment that I look around me to day on the beautiful picture made by the chain of hills with which you have done me the honour of associating my name I can assure you that I shall not readily forget the fine scenery of the Wilson Hills and I feel that the presence of the marble bust which this elegant and imposing 'Chhatri' shelters, will symbolize my presence here in spirit, long after I have left this delightful spot

It is indeed fortunate for the public at large that your wanderings in pursuit of savage animals from which you have in true kingly fashion set yourself to rid your subjects, led you to discover this admirable plateau, with its valuable advantages of climate scenery and situation I count myself singularly fortunate that it has to day fallen to my lot to inaugurate a new

hill station for Gujarat under such agreeable conditions. It is true enough, as you have already realised, that there are many difficulties ahead, and that much care and labour will be needed before the new Hill Station becomes a definite reality. The framing of a suitable scheme for the water supply of the plateau will be not the least of the problems to be encountered.

The difficulties, however, to be surmounted, will only make the accomplishment more worth while, when it finally comes to pass; and the manner in which you have already attacked and solved the preliminary difficulties which had to be met before to-day's ceremony could be successfully carried out gives me every reason to hope that a model and flourishing Hill Station will be actually in existence on this plateau within a much shorter time than anybody would have thought possible, who was unaware of the energy and the personal pains that you have exerted already in this behalf. It must have been no light undertaking to plan and construct the excellent and well graded motor road by which we have arrived here to-day, in what is still a sufficiently remote forest, considering that, as recently as the close of last monsoon, no practicable roadway up the hill existed. Nor is it an easy or everyday kind of task to get such a handsome monument constructed here on this lofty plateau within a few months time, considering that every stone used in its construction has been specially brought from a distance, and has had to be dressed, prepared and transported over more than 30 miles from the railway to the top of the plateau, and that at a time when the road was still far from completion. You have succeeded, however, in getting these difficult tasks accomplished in what may be called record time. The 'Chhatri' so beautifully designed by Mr. Ditchburn is finished, the bust, the talented work of Mr. Talim, is in place, the road is cleared of boulders and carefully planned, and even the warning signals for motorists have been erected at places which show that much thought and trouble must have been devoted to their selection.

The development of the Hill Station will, of course, be greatly helped by the improvement of the communications which the projected railway line from Bulsar to Dharampur would effect. I fully share your hope that the railway branch line may be constructed soon, but I doubt whether a motor road from Bombay to Surat, *via* Bulsar, will become an accomplished fact for many years to come. You have, I think, a right to expect any encouragement that my Government may be in a position to give to the far-sighted and comprehensive scheme which you have just outlined to me in such eloquent terms, a scheme which will result, when it comes to fruition, in inestimable benefit to the people of Bombay and Gujarat. The people of Bombay and

Surat, and possibly of Ahmedabad, are likely to be chiefly benefited by the existence of a new hill station within easy reach of the main broad-gauge railway line That is to say, the three largest cities in the Presidency are likely to be chiefly benefited, in addition to several important and populous towns, such as Thana, Bulsar, Navsari, Broach and Baroda, which will all be within easy reach

I have said enough, I hope, to assure you of the great interest which I feel in the inauguration of your Hill Station, and of the real sympathy which I have for your strenuous endeavours and large minded enterprise in working out the whole scheme I shall long associate this day with the memory of this beautiful plateau which adorns the territory of a keen sportsman and an enlightened ruler

As you have said, Maharana Saheb, Governors come and go I do not know what the feelings of my predecessors were when they left Bombay Presidency, but I do know of one Governor who will leave with feelings of the deepest regret It will, however, be some solace to him, and to his wife, to realise that, as these hills are here for ever, their names will, through your kindness, be for always associated with this beautiful place I wish the new Hill Station all success "

A VISIT TO THE HILL STATION.

An account of the visit to the new Hill Station appeared in "The Times of India Illustrated Weekly," dated 29th January 1928, under the signature of D W D, who is an eminent architect of Bombay with whose permission it is reproduced below

I wonder how many people realise the enormous amount of pioneering work entailed in bringing into existence a Hill Station as a residential locality, and how many persons who drive along comfortably in motor cars among glorious mountain scenery stop to think of the difficulties encountered in finding and constructing ways and means of enabling cars to climb an ascent of, say, 2 000 feet on passable gradients

Many hills would make excellent hill stations if only means of access could be devised without excessively heavy expenditure

A trip to a hill station in the making is, therefore, a most interesting one to the average town dweller who does not see, or perhaps realise, how much thought and anxiety the engineer has to contend with in providing those estimable benefits of an elevated Station where the healthy can besport themselves and the sick and convalescent recuperate in the cool invigorating air of the mountains

One of these hill stations, is now in process of formation, and when completed will vie with her sister stations of Mahableshwar, Khandalla, Lonavla and Matheran and doubtless will be largely patronized by inhabitants from the Bombay Presidency, and particularly those living in the towns on the West side of India—Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat, Bulsar, Broach, etc, for this hill station is within easy reach of all and very much nearer than any of the other hill stations mentioned.

A Trip to the Site

As guests of the Maharaja we left Colaba Station at 7-25 a m., arriving at noon at Bulsar, where one has to alight for Dharampur State. The State lies between Bulsar on the West and Nasik on the East and comprises well-wooded jungle and the Pungabari Hills now to be opened out to the public. A car awaiting us at the station sped along the straight road connecting the British Territory and the domain of Dharampur.

The portion of the road in the British Territory is now of the cart-track variety as a result of neglect in surface repairing, whereas the portion in the Dharampur State is all that could be desired. Travelling along this road some years ago when it was under the charge of the Public Works Department one could attain a speed of 30 to 40 miles per hour. Now, however, the British portion being under the control of the local Board, a speed of 15 miles per hour proved to be a torture.

An hour's motor run brought us to the State Guest House where we enjoyed the Maharaja's well-known hospitality Our trip then commenced to the hills through Dharampur town and out into the country, the cars racing along with the throttle full open on wide and well-laid macadamised trunk roads. En route the Maharaja pointed out the "machan" from which he bagged a panther the previous night, for tiger, panther, wild boar, etc, abound in his forest domains

We arrive at the foot of the hill and the ascent begins, the road having been roughly hewn out here and there. After two or three miles we come to hairpin bends which only the most skilled driver could negotiate, and our hearts miss a few beats while the process of negotiating these twists is being dextrously carried out by the special Shikari Chauffeur of the Maharaja.

Soon we find an orderly crowd of cooly men and women working away under the guidance of the Forest Officer and Engineer, eliminating some of the bends and easing off others. As we climb the various gradients, we breathe the purer air of the mountains—and what a panoramic vista is opened out to us!



H E THE GOVERNOR S FIRST DAY S BAG AT DHARAMPUR

We get out of the car and under the cool shade of the tree—for the whole route from Dharampur is skirted by leafy trees—we look out into the valleys and on to the green hills, a happy hunting ground of game On and up we climb, under the shady continuous bower, sometimes through fields of standing crops giving relief to the nerves of those who are not partial to ghat climbing and so on until we reach the Camp, 2,000 feet above sea level It was arranged that we should spend the night here and for our convenience had been erected bamboo matting and thatched cottages, thatched with new mown hay that gave a delicious fragrance in the night air

A repast which one would have difficulty in approaching as far as cuisine was concerned at any hotel in Bombay was prepared for us Such was the hospitality of our host, who must have devoted as much time to our comfort as his Engineers are devoting on behalf of the public who will follow in our trial in the years to come

Rising the following morning after a sound sleep under two blankets—and this in the middle of October—we saw the mist clearing off the surrounding hills and the sun making his appearance To ensure our safety a motor car was sent to the summit another 300 feet high in order to ascertain if it were possible to travel the whole way by car This having been confirmed we commenced the last stage of our journey which was accomplished with ease

The sun was well above the horizon when we reached the plateau on the summit and here peculiarly enough there were very few trees except perhaps on the slopes falling away from the plateau Crops were also standing here ready for harvesting but what enthralled us most was the extensive view of the surrounding country right to the sea beyond Bulsar on the East and as far as the Nasik hills on the West hills in the far distance shut out the South but miles upon miles of hilly country could be seen stretching out far to the North The magnificent scenery the trees the undergrowth the cool breeze blowing across the plateau inspired one to render thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe for the beauties of the earth

Whether it be in five years or ten years it is hard to predict but one can imagine the activities of the builder erecting country houses hotels etc, for the public What better place could be imagined for a Gymkhana and Club than the table land on the summit A golf course is proposed resembling some of the most sporting on the West coast of Scotland

Motor drives along shady roads to points yet without names and miles distance from each other are planned —and all these advantages are for the town dweller within a few hours of his town residence The task of laying out the hill in an ordered plan is in progress

A motor road is, we understand, being considered between Bombay and Bulsar so that the business man leaving in the morning will arrive at Pangabari Hills in the afternoon, or he may leave by the 7 45 a m train from Grant Road, Bombay, and be on the hill at 3 p m It is understood that a railway is in contemplation between Bulsar and Nasik or Deolali, which one would imagine would pass near the foot of the Pangabari Hills This will not only be a beneficial linking up of the two great railway lines, the G I P and B B & C I , for trading purposes, but will also be of great service in the opening up of this new hill station

APPENDIX I.

THE STATE BANQUET

RESTORATION OF HARMONY IN INDIA

A WELL DESERVED TRIBUTE TO LORD IRWIN.

At the State Banquet held in honour of the Governor on 1st of February 1928 the Maharana made a powerful speech in which after referring to the happy relations of the State with the Paramount Power for over a century and a quarter and the blessings of peace which the treaty of Bassein brought to the province the Maharana paid a tribute to the Governor on his being a sagacious statesman and popular ruler and referred to the great work which Lord Irwin had undertaken of restoring cordial relations between different communities in India He expressed his sympathy with the legitimate aspirations of Indians for self government he eloquently pleaded for a scrupulous safeguarding of the position of Indian princes as independent units in accordance with treaties and conventions The speech produced a great impression on the hearers

In proposing the toast of His Excellency the Maharana said —

Your Excellency Ladies and Gentlemen

To-day is unique in the history of Dharampur State for never before have the Ruler and people of this State had the opportunity within its borders of rendering honour to the representative of the King Emperor I venture to hope that in the years to come visits of this kind may often be repeated, for they cannot fail to increase our mutual knowledge and to strengthen those bonds of loyalty which subsists between His Imperial Majesty s Government in India and the Indian States But for the moment it is the present and not the future that must engage my attention and it is my pleasant duty, in heartily welcoming Your Excellency to voice the sentiments of myself and all around me and thank you for finding time among your many crowded engagements graciously to come here This is no formal expression of gratitude but a heartfelt appreciation of your kindness and sympathy which no words can adequately express

Equally heartfelt is my expression of regret that Lady Wilson should have been compelled by ill health to abandon her intention of coming here It seems particularly hard that one who has done and is doing so much to relieve the sufferings of others should herself suffer so greatly By her charm of manner and deep interest in all that concerns the women and children of India Lady Wilson has won the hearts of all But just as it is beyond me to estimate the incomparable position Lady Wilson has achieved for herself in this country so do I feel that I cannot fully express my regret that she is not with us now

The Rulers and subjects of this State have ever looked upon it as a kindly act of Providence that they should have been brought into relationship with the great power of England and nothing in that association has dimi nished for us Rajputs our valued traditions of devotion courage and loyalty My ancestors of the famous Sisodia line have always been known in the history of this land as strongwilled but good hearted Rulers of men distin guished too by selflessness and fidelity Their s was a glorious if chequered history At one time the territory of Dharampur State extended right up to Bassein of Thana District in the South Trambak in the Nasik District in the East and Chikhali in the North We first saw peace and tranquillity when the treaty of Bassein in 1802 brought the State into direct relationship with the British Government and since that time its loyalty and devotion have never been questioned During the great mutiny for example it rendered much help by capturing a number of rebels and handing them over to the authorities at Surat Curtailed as is my inheritance compared with the past glories of Dharampur I am none the less proud to be the heir to the glorious and inspiring tradition of my ancestors and have endeavoured to live up to it in a way worthy of those who have handed it down to me Not least of all do I cherish the thought that the men and resources of this State were freely given to help in the great war against tyranny and that Dharampur was thus able to assist in the triumph of right and liberty and in the firm maintenance of that great commonwealth of nations which constitutes the British Empire

Your Excellency will I know learn with pleasure that harmony and concord prevail in this State Here there is none of that distressing commu nal enmity which has disfigured the recent history of India none of that discord which makes a mockery of religion Yet as we watch the world around us we thank God that India has the leadership of His Excellency the Viceroy in striving for a restoration of fraternal relations among its peoples and that the Bombay Presidency has enjoyed the advantage of Your Excel- lency s wise statesmanship and sympathetic guidance

The zeal of Your Excellency and Lady Wilson in promoting all manner of good works and particularly in bringing medical relief within reach of the poor is known throughout the land It was therefore peculiarly appropriate and a particular pleasure to me that the opening ceremony of the Jubilee Dispensary and the Women s Hospital should be performed at your hands It has been my persistent endeavour so far as the resources of my State permit to ameliorate the conditions in which the poorer classes of my subjects have to live and work and I trust that with the wider diffusion of education and the increase of opportunities for self-development my people will be able to give a still better account of themselves in the race of life With the assistance of such sympathetic British Officers as you Sir and with the willing devotion of my subjects I look forward to a steady advance towards realising the ideal of prosperity plenty and progress in the State I derive no small hope for the future from the fact that the Bombay Government have shown themselves in the light of a true friend to my State In Mr Hartshorne the Political Agent I have a friend and adviser whose counsel I greatly value and it would ill become me were I to omit this tribute to his sympathetic attitude and constant readiness to be of service to Dharampur Fortunate indeed is the State whose relations with British India are entrusted to such admirable hands as his I am glad to see Mrs Hartshorne with him here to-night for I can now publicly say how much I am indebted to her for many acts of courtesy and kindness May I be permitted on this important occasion to point out that situated as Dharampur is amidst the hills of Sahyadri it is cut off from the main lines of communication with the capital of the Presidency The state of semi seclusion into which Dharampur is forced by the absence of a connecting railway with British territory must inevitably retard our progress To open up the country east of Bulsar by means of a railway would I believe be financially profitable and therein I think lies my chief justification for having suggested that project If the attention of Your Excellency to the possibilities of development in this direction can be obtained I shall feel that a great step has been taken towards the solution of a problem which means much to this State

There is one other matter of wider importance to which I hope I may be permitted to allude Rulers of Indian States have every reason to feel happy in the thought that India should be gradually equipped and prepared to take its legitimate place as an equal partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations The position of Indian States under a self governing India is a matter of complex ramifications and not easy of clear definition While sympathising with the aspirations and ambitions of British Indian subjects

for a form of government analogous to that which obtains in Canada and Australia, I cannot refrain from emphasizing that the Indian States also must have a considerable share of attention in the evolution of any kind of new polity. Our obligations to the Suzerain Power and our rights and privileges are solemnised in treaties and agreements. We are a distinct entity by ourselves. What I plead for, Sir, is a scrupulous safeguarding of our position as independent units in compliance with treaties and precedents. No scheme of constitutional reform could be satisfactory, or complete, or just, which did not make an adequate and proper provision for representing the distinct interests of Indian States and for avoiding any direct or indirect injury to those interests as a result of changed environment.

It is time for me to leave politics aside and come to the most pleasant duty that can fall to me, that of proposing the toast of our honoured guest. The Bombay Presidency is fortunate in having as its Governor, Sir Leslie Wilson who, in addition to showing great qualities as a Ruler, has established a personal popularity that has never been exceeded. And His Excellency has the fortune to have as his wife a Lady, who by her charm of manner and deep interest in all that concerns the women and children of India, has won the hearts of all I ask you now to drink the health of His Excellency the Governor."

A MOST ENJOYABLE VISIT.

His Excellency the Governor, in responding to the toast, said:

" Maharana Shri Vijayadevji,

I desire to thank you most sincerely for the very hearty welcome you have given me to your State and capital, and for the most generous terms in which you have proposed my health. I need hardly say that, though I must discount the utterances of a kind host on such an occasion, I much appreciate and value the friendly sentiments to which you have given expression with reference to Lady Wilson and myself.

I must also express our regret that Lady Wilson has been unable to accompany me. It has been a deep disappointment to us both that, at the last moment, her doctor thought it undesirable that she should undertake this tour. I have already told you, Maharana Saheb, how extremely sorry Lady Wilson is that she is not able to pay this visit, to which she was looking forward so keenly.

I would also thank you and my fellow guests for the way in which the toast has been received and honoured.

I need not assure you, Raja Saheb, of the great pleasure it has given me to be able to accept your invitation to visit your State. I have, as perhaps the record of my tour will have disclosed to you, welcomed such opportunities of obtaining an acquaintance with the States which are in political relationship with my Government and with their people and problems. In particular I welcome the opportunities such visits afford of establishing and strengthening the friendly personal relations which I believe exist between their rulers and myself. A personal and first-hand acquaintance with their States and their problems is, I hope, of benefit to them, as it certainly is to me in dealing with the many knotty questions which so often fall to my lot in connection with this important branch of my public duties.

I have been much impressed by the pains you must have taken to arrange such varied and excellent entertainment for Lady Wilson and myself, and by the fact, as I have learnt, that you have personally superintended every detail that could be thought of for our enjoyment and comfort. You have given me a most enjoyable visit, with excursions in the jungle amid beautiful scenery, interspersed in the midst of more imposing ceremonial of the pleasant tasks of opening your handsome and useful buildings.

My pleasure in visiting your State has not been lessened by the fact that I am the first Governor of Bombay to do so, and I am glad to say that I have seen and heard much in the course of this visit—brief though it be—to increase my satisfaction in having been able to see your State and its people. I have been much interested in your references to the History of your State and its rulers. As you have pointed out with just pride, you belong to the illustrious race of Sisodia Rajputs of the Solanki race who, as history relates, came originally from Mewar, and in whose veins flows the best of Rajput blood. The relations of your ancestors with the British Government date from over a century and a quarter ago, and I am sure that the loyalty and devotion to which you refer as exhibited by them in this lengthy period, is being worthily upheld and will be always displayed by the present ruler of the State, and that, if again need should arise, the men and resources of the State will be freely forthcoming It is not long since that, in what appeared to be an emergency, I received from you, Raja Saheb, a telegram putting all your resources at the disposal of the Viceroy and the King-Emperor.

I have heard with the greatest pleasure of the interest which you, Raja Saheb, are taking in the administration of your State, and of your schemes for improving the education and health of your subjects. I have seen something of them, and shall watch their progress with interest. I am sure that by perseverance in such paths you will realise the ideal of prosperity, plenty

and progress in the State to which you refer, and will earn the gratitude of its subjects, and add to the fame and prestige of its rulers

You have referred with some anxiety to the relations of Indian States with British India in connection with the path of progressive self government on which the steps of the latter have been directed You are, of course, aware that the Viceroy has appointed a committee to investigate some fundamental questions in this State connection, and this committee will doubtless take into consideration all matters which at present arise in regard to your privileges and interests You need have no fear that, in any steps which may be taken, there will be any disregard of either I am sure you will not expect me now to enter into the difficult sphere of constitutional prophesy or speculation

On a more concrete and material matter I would remark that, situated as Dharampur is, it is but natural that you should have been led to seek to connect it with British territory by a broad gauge branch railway The Railway Board have recently sanctioned a traffic survey of a broad gauge line from Bulsar to Dharampur, and I hope that, before long, the report will be favourable and that the project will be carried out and Dharampur connected by railway with the rest of the presidency

Your speech Raja Saheb, has touched on many other interesting points which, I fear, I must pass over, such as for example the communal question which I am glad does not exist with you

I welcome your references to the good relations between the Bombay Government and your State and to your friend and adviser Mr Hartshorne

It has been a great pleasure to me to visit your interesting and picturesque State I thank you again for your hearty welcome, for your most generous hospitality, and for all the excellent arrangements which have been made with much care to render my all too short stay enjoyable I shall look back with the happiest memories to this visit, and I should like to express, in the warmest words, my most sincere good wishes for the prosperity of the State and its ruler

I now ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen to drink with me the health of our host, Maharana Shri Vijayadevji Mohandevji Raja of Dharampur"

The health of the Maharana was enthusiastically drunk This brought to a conclusion a memorable visit and the guests will long cherish with gratitude the princely hospitality extended to them and great efforts made by the Maharana for their comforts

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